





1884.
PROCEEDINGS
—OF THE—
GRAND CHAPTER
—OF—

Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

—AT ITS—
TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL CONVOCATION,

—HELD IN THE—

Masonic Hall, Toronto Street,
City of Toronto,



Friday, July 11th, A. D. 1884,
A. I. 2414, A. L., 5884.

Ordered to be read in all Chapters and Preserved.

ADDRESS—HENRY MACPHERSON, OWEN SOUND, ONT., GRAND Z.
DAVID McLELLAN, HAMILTON, ONT., GRAND SCRIBE E.

A. McPHERSON, PRINTER, 51 JAMES STREET NORTH, HAMILTON, ONT.

GRAND CHAPTER OF CANADA.

PROCEEDINGS.

The Twenty-seventh Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada, held in the Masonic Hall, Toronto street, in the City of Toronto, on Friday, the 11th day of July, A.D. 1884, A.I. 2414.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. E. Comp.	HENRY MACPHERSON,	Grand Z.	} Grand Council.
R. " "	Thomas Sargant,	" H.	
R. " "	Robert Hendry, jr,	" J.	
	On the Throne.		
R. E. Comp.	David McLellan,	Gr'd Scribe E.	
" "	Alexander Patterson,	" " N.	
" "	Sherman E. Townsend,	" Prin. Soj.	
E. "	F. F. Dalley,	as Treasurer.	
M. E. "	Daniel Spry,	as Registrar.	
E. "	J. E. Harrison,	as 1st Asst. Soj.	
V. E. "	Edwin Plant,	" 2nd "	
R. E. "	Robert Ramsay,	as Sword Bearer.	
V. E. "	Wm Pantou	" M'str of Veils.	
R. E. "	John Parry,	as Stan'd Bearer.	
E. "	John Malloy,	as Dir. of Cer.	
E. "	Geo. Chrystal,	as Organist.	
V. E. "	Samuel R. Moffat,	" Pursuivant.	
V. E. "	Thos McCarroll,	" Steward.	
R. E. "	C. E. S. Black,	as "	
E. "	J. M. Dunn,	as "	
R. E. "	W. D. Hepburn,	as "	
" "	J. H. Pritchard,	" Janitor.	

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS OF DISTRICTS.

R. E. Comp.	Robert Mackay, London,	London District.
" "	Chas. L. Beard, Woodstock,	Wilson "
" "	John Scoon, Guelph,	Guelph "
" "	Wm. G. Reid, Hamilton,	Hamilton "
" "	Wm. Forbes, Grimsby,	Niagara "

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

M. E. Comp.	James Seymour, St. Catharines,	Past	G. Z.
" "	L. H. Henderson, Belleville,	" "	" "
" "	Fred. J. Menet, Toronto,	" "	" "
" "	Daniel Spry, Barrie,	" "	" "
" "	Donald Ross, Picton,	" "	" "
R. E.	Thos. C. Macnabb, Chatham,	"	H.
" "	Kivas Tully, Toronto,	"	G. J.
" "	Henry Robertson, Collingwood,	"	G. J.
" "	A. G. Smyth, London,	"	G. Supt.
" "	Jas. B. Nixon, Toronto,	"	"
" "	J. Ross Robertson, Toronto,	"	"
" "	J. G. Burns,	"	"
" "	C. E. S. Black, Hamilton,	"	"
" "	W. D. Hepburn, Preston,	"	"
" "	H. K. Maitland, Guelph,	"	"
" "	C. W. Brown, Toronto,	"	"
" "	Jas. Wilson,	"	"
" "	R. B. Hungerford, London,	"	G. P. S.
" "	Geo. C. Patterson, Toronto,	"	"
" "	J. J. Mason, Hamilton,	"	G. R.
" "	John Creasor, Owen Sound,	"	"
" "	John Satchell, Ottawa,	"	"

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

M. E. Comp.	Jas. Seymour, from Grand Chap. of Indiana.		
" "	" " " " " "	"	Iowa.
" "	" " " " " "	"	Mark Lodge of E. & W.
" "	L. H. Henderson,	"	Chap. of Colorado.
" "	Fred. J. Menet,	"	Minnesota.
" "	Daniel Spry,	"	New Jersey.
" "	" " " " " "	"	Quebec.
" "	Donald Ross,	"	Connecticut.
R. E.	Thos. C. Macnabb,	"	Delaware.
" "	H. Robertson,	"	Dist. of Col.
" "	" " " " " "	"	Mississippi.
" "	" " " " " "	"	New York.
" "	David McLellan,	"	Georgia.
" "	" " " " " "	"	N. Hampshire
" "	Wm Forbes,	"	Illinois.
" "	Thos. Sargant,	"	Kentucky.
" "	J. G. Burns,	"	Maryland.
" "	J. Ross Robertson,	"	Nebraska.
" "	J. J. Mason,	"	Nevada.

R. E.	"	Jas. Wilson,	"	"	N. Carolina.
"	"	Robt. Hendry, jr,	"	"	Nova Scotia.
"	"	J. B. Nixon,	"	"	Vermont.

PAST FIRST PRINCIPALS.

M. E. Comp.	Jas. Seymour,	R. E. Comp.	John Creasor,
"	L. H. Henderson,	"	C. W. Brown,
"	Fred. J. Menet,	"	Robt. Ramsay,
"	Daniel Spry,	"	Jas. Wilson,
"	Donald Ross,	V. E.	Edwin Plant,
R. E.	S. E. Townsend,	"	Wm. Panton,
"	A. G. Smyth,	"	Thos. McCarroll,
"	R. B. Hungerford,	"	S. R. Moffat,
"	David McLellan,	"	John Inglis,
"	Wm. G. Reid,	"	Jos. Beck,
"	Wm. Forbes,	"	H. S. Broughton,
"	J. J. Mason,	E. Comp.	Otto Klotz,
"	Thos. Sargent	"	F. F. Dalley,
"	Alex. Patterson,	"	John Malloy,
"	Jas. B. Nixon,	"	Wm. Waddington, jr,
"	J. Ross Robertson,	"	A. W. Francis,
"	J. G. Burns,	"	Thos. Miller,
"	Geo. C. Patterson,	"	J. Mc. L. Stevenson
"	Kivas Tully,	"	V. Clementi,
"	Robt. Hendry, jr	"	Jas. Walters,
"	Henry Robertson,	"	J. E. Harrison,
"	C. E. S. Black,	"	H. J. M. Wilson,
"	John Satchell,	"	John Sinclair,
"	John Scoon,	"	D. W. Mayes,
"	John Parry,	"	Wm. Smith,
"	W. D. Hepburn,	"	Jno. S. Tennant,
"	H. K. Maitland	"	DeWitt H. Martyn,
"	Thos. C. Macnabb	"	J. M. Dunn,
"	Robt. Mackay,	"	J. A. Frazer.

VISITOR.

M. E. Comp. T. S. Parvin, Past Grand High Priest, of the Grand Chapter of Iowa.

A constitutional number of Chapters being represented by their qualified officers, the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada, was opened in Ample Form at 10:40 a.m.

R. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford, from the Committee on Credentials of Representatives, reported that there were eighty Chapters on the Roll of Grand Chapter, of which number fifty-four were represented by the following Companions :

- No. 1. Ancient Frontenac Chapter, Kingston.
 E. Comp. H. J. Wilkinson, Z.
 " S. G. Fairtlough, J.
- No. 2. The Hiram Chapter, Hamilton.
 E. Comp. Chas. H. Foster, Z.
 E. " Otto Klotz, P. Z.
 E. " F. F. Dalley, P. Z.
 R. E. " S. E. Townsend, P. Z.
- No. 3. St. John's Chapter, London.
 E. Comp. J. S. Dewar, H.
- No. 4. St. Andrew and St. John Chapter, Toronto.
 E. Comp. Seymour Porter, Z.
 M. E. " Fred J. Menet, P. Z.
- No. 5. St. George's Chapter, London.
 E. Comp. A. O. Jeffery, Z.
 R. E. " A. G. Smyth, P. Z.
 R. E. " R. B. Hungerford, P. Z.
- No. 6. St. John's Chapter, Hamilton.
 E. Comp. E. Hill, J.
 E. Comp. John Malloy, P. Z.
 R. E. Comp. David McLellan, P. Z.
 " " Comp. W. G. Reid, P. Z.
 " " Comp. Wm. Forbes, P. Z.
 " " Comp. J. J. Mason, P. Z.
- No. 7. Moira Chapter, Belleville.
 E. Comp. J. J. Farley, Z.
 V. " " W. H. Ponton, P. Z.
 M. " " L. H. Henderson, P. Z.
- No. 8. King Solomon's Chapter, Toronto.
 E. Comp. P. J. Slatter, Z.
 " " E. T. Malone, H.
 " " Joseph Clare, J.
 " " John Patton, P. H.
 " " A. R. Riches, P. J.
 R. Ex. Comp. David McLellan, P. Z.
 " " Thos. Sargent, P. Z.
 " " Alex. Patterson, P. Z.
 " " Jas. B. Nixon, P. Z.
 " " J. Ross Robertson, P. Z.
 " " J. G. Burns, P. Z.
 " " Geo. C. Patterson, P. Z.
 " " Kivas Tully, P. Z.

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|---------|--|------------------|---------------------|-------|
| | M. E. | " | Fred. J. Menet, | P. Z. |
| | " | " | Daniel Spry, | P. Z. |
| No. 10. | New Brunswick Chapter, St. John, N. B. | | | |
| | R. E. Comp. | D. R. Munro, | P. Z. Proxy. | |
| No. 12. | Catarqui Chapter, Kingston. | | | |
| | E. Comp. | A. Shaw, | Z. | |
| | " | " | Wm. Waddington, jr, | P. Z. |
| | R. E. | " | R. Hendry, jr, | P. Z. |
| No. 16. | Carleton Chapter, Ottawa. | | | |
| | E. Comp. | A. Chatfield, | Z. | |
| | V. E. | " | D. S. Eastwood, | P. H. |
| | " | " | Edwin Plant, | P. Z. |
| No. 18. | Oxford Chapter, Woodstock. | | | |
| | E. Comp. | Robt. Stark, | Z. | |
| | " | " | A. W. Francis, | P. Z. |
| | R. E. | " | C. L. Beard, | P. Z. |
| No. 19. | Mount Moriah Chapter, St. Catharines. | | | |
| | M. E. Comp. | Jas. Seymour, | P. Z. | |
| No. 20. | Mount Horeb Chapter, Brantford | | | |
| | E. Comp. | K. Ashton, | Z. | |
| No. 22. | Grenville Chapter, Prescott. | | | |
| | E. Comp. | John Carruthers, | J. | |
| | R. E. Comp. | John Satchell, | P. Z. | |
| No. 24. | Tecumseh Chapter, Stratford. | | | |
| | E. Comp. | Thos. Miller, | P. Z. | |
| No. 27. | Manitou Chapter, Collingwood. | | | |
| | E. Comp. | John Nettleton, | Z. | |
| | R. E. | " | Henry Robertson, | P. Z. |
| | M. E. | " | Henry Macpherson, | P. Z. |
| No. 28. | Pentalpha Chapter, Oshawa. | | | |
| | E. Comp. | Robert McCaw, | Z. | |
| | " | " | W. R. Piggott, | J. |
| No. 29. | McCallum Chapter, Dunnville. | | | |
| | R. E. Comp. | John Parry, | P. Z. | |
| | " | " | C. E. S. Black, | P. Z. |
| No. 30. | Huron Chapter, Goderich. | | | |
| | E. Comp. | R. Radcliffe, | Z. | |
| | V. E. | " | Jos. Beck, | P. Z. |
| No. 31. | Prince Edward Chapter, Picton. | | | |
| | E. Comp. | Hiram Welbanks, | H. | |
| | M. | " | Donald Ross, | P. Z. |

- No. 32. Waterloo Chapter, Galt.
E. Comp. G. J. Greenhill, J.
- No. 34. Signet Chapter, Barrie.
E. Comp. C. L. Sanders, Z.
V. " " J. McL. Stevenson, P. Z.
R. " " Robert Ramsay, P. Z.
M. " " Daniel Spry, P. Z.
- No. 36. Corinthian Chapter, Peterboro.
E. Comp. W. Paterson, jr, Z.
E. Comp. V. Clementi, P. Z.
- No. 37. Victoria Chapter, Port Hope.
E. Comp. W. B. Wallace, Z.
- No. 38. Seymour Chapter, Bradford.
V. E. Comp. H. S. Broughton, Z.
E. Comp. T. S. Patterson, J.
- No. 40. Guelph Chapter, Guelph.
V. E. Comp. John Inglis, P. Z.
" " S. R. Moffat, P. Z.
R. E. " John Scoon, P. Z.
" " W. D. Hepburn, P. Z.
" " H. K. Maitland, P. Z.
- No. 44. Mount Sinai Chapter, Napanee.
E. Comp. Ogden Hinch, Z.
" " James Walters, P. Z.
M. E. " Donald Ross, P. Z.
- No. 47. Wellington Chapter, Chatham.
R. E. Comp. Thos. C. Macnabb, P. Z.
- No. 52. Prince Rupert's Chapter, Winnipeg.
R. E. Comp. David McLellan, P. Z. Proxy.
- No. 53. Bruce Chapter, Petrolia.
E. Comp. David Trotter, Z.
" " John Sinclair, P. Z.
- No. 54. Palestine Chapter, St. Thomas.
E. Comp. George Cockran, Z.
R. " " Robt. Mackay, P. Z.
- No. 56. Georgian Chapter, Owen Sound.
E. Comp. Robert Edgar, H.
R. " " John Creasor, P. Z.
M. " " Henry Macpherson, P. Z.
- No. 57. King Hiram Chapter, Port Colborne.
R. E. Comp. Wm. Forbes, P. Z. Proxy.

No. 60.	Doric Chapter, Newmarket.	
	E. Com. D. W. Mayes,	P. Z. Proxy.
No. 61.	Granite Chapter, Almonte.	
	E. Comp. Wm. Smith,	P. Z.
No. 62.	York Chapter, Eglinton.	
	E. Comp J. K. Leslie,	Z.
	" " E. T. Malone,	H.
	" " John McCarter,	J.
	" " Thos. Sargent,	P. Z.
	R. " " J. B. Nixon,	P. Z.
No. 63.	Havelock Chapter, Kincardine.	
	E. Comp. Ben Freer,	Z.
	" " John S. Tennant,	P. Z.
	" " DeWitt H. Martyn,	P. Z.
No. 64.	Willson Chapter, Welland.	
	E. Comp. J. Murison Durn,	P. Z.
No. 65.	St. Paul's Chapter, Toronto.	
	E. Comp. W. S. S. Jackson,	Z.
	R. " " C. W. Brown,	P. Z.
	M. " " F. J. Menet,	P. Z.
No. 68.	Maitland Chapter, Maitland.	
	R. E. Comp. Robert Ramsay,	P. Z. Proxy.
No. 69.	Grimsby Chapter, Grimsby.	
	R. E. Comp. W. G. Reid,	P. Z.
	" " Wm. Forbes,	P. Z.
No. 70.	Grand River Chapter, Berlin.	
	E. Comp. Charles Hendry,	Z.
No. 73.	Erie Chapter, Ridgétown.	
	E. Comp. D. Cochran,	Z.
No. 75.	St. Clair Chapter, Milton.	
	E. Comp. J. E. Harrison,	P. Z.
	" " J. A. Frazer,	P. Z.
	V. " " Wm, Pantón,	P. Z.
No. 77.	Occident Chapter, Toronto.	
	E. Comp. Jno. A. Wills,	Z.
	" " J. T. Jones,	P. J.
	" " H. J. M. Wilson,	P. Z.
	R. " " Thos. Sargent,	P. Z.
	R. " " Jas. Wilson,	P. Z.
	M. " " F. J. Menet,	P. Z.
	M. " " Daniel Spry,	P. Z.

- No. 78. Minnewawa Chapter, Parkhill.
R. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford, P. Z. Proxy.
- No. 79. Orient Chapter, Toronto.
E. Comp. Andrew Park, Z.
" " D. H. Watt, H.
R. " " Thos. Sargant, P. Z.
" " Jas. B. Nixon, P. Z.
" " J. Ross Robertson, P. Z.
" " Geo. C. Patterson, P. Z.
M. E. " F. J. Menet, P. Z.
" " Daniel Spry, P. Z.
- No. 80. Ark Chapter, Windsor.
E. Comp. P. A. Craig, Z.
" " R. Beasley, H.
- No. 83. Ionic Chapter, Orangeville.
R. E. Comp. Thos. Sargant, P. Z.
" " Jas. Wilson, P. Z.
- No. 86. Macpherson Chapter, Meaford.
V. E. Comp. Thos. McCarroll, Z.
- No. 87. Wentworth Chapter, Dundas.
E. Comp. Henry Bickford, Z.
" " Fred. Bennett, J.
" " Geo. Chrystal, P. H.
R. E. " David McLellan, P. Z.
" " Wm. G. Reid, P. Z.
- No. 90. Golden Chapter, Rat Portage.
R. E. Comp. Thos. Sargant, P. Z. Proxy.
- U. D. Parkdale Chapter, Parkdale.
R. E. Comp. Thos. Sargant, P. Z.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

R. B. HUNGERFORD,	} Committee.
JOHN SCOON,	
JOHN A. WILLS.	

On motion of R. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by R. E. Comp. John Scoon, the report of the Committee on the Credentials of Representatives was received and adopted.

The M. E. Grand Z. granted permission for the admission of all Royal Arch Masons in good standing during the session of the Grand Chapter as visitors.

The Grand Scribe E. read the Rules and Regulations for the government of Grand Chapter during business. The

Grand Scribe E. commenced to read the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Twenty-sixth Annual Convocation, held in the City of Ottawa on the 13th day of July, A. D. 1883, A. I. 2413, when it was moved by M. E. Comp. Donald Ross, seconded by M. E. Comp. Fred. J. Menet, and resolved:—

That as the proceedings of the last Annual Convocation, held on the 13th day of July, have been printed, and copies thereof sent to all Chapters under this jurisdiction, the recorded minutes thereof be considered as read, and the same be now confirmed.

The M. E. the Grand Z. then read the following

ADDRESS :

To the Most Excellent the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada—GREETING :

COMPANIONS :—

Another year has been added to the roll of Time, and we are spared to attend the twenty-seventh annual convocation of the Grand Chapter of Canada, and to pass in review the proceedings of the past year so far as they affect the interests of Capitular Masonry within our Jurisdiction.

Before entering on a review of our acts during the year I would like, however, to call your attention to a short retrospect of the history and position of the Royal Craft in Canada.

Previous to the year 1857 the Chapters in Canada were held under warrants issued from the Grand Chapters of England, Ireland and Scotland, but a number of leading Companions believing it would be for the best interests of the Royal Craft to unite together and have all Royal Arch Masons under one control, and that a local one, took measures to establish a Grand Chapter for Canada, which was successfully done in the year 1857. For the purpose of shortening my review I will divide it into three periods of nine years each. The beginning of a work of this kind is, of course the most trying, commencing with but three Chapters, having to prepare a suitable constitution for their grand body, to so present themselves to the various Chapters in Canada as to secure their adhesion, and to the sister Grand Chapters throughout the world as to secure their recognition, we may see they had an arduous as well as a noble work to perform. At the ninth annual Convocation there were twenty-four chapters working under the Grand Chapter of Canada, with a membership of 847 and an income that year of \$611, and the Grand Chapter was in friendly communication with nearly all the Grand

Chapters of the world. Grand Chapter, however, was not at that time entirely free from debt, there being still some liabilities incurred during the early years unsettled, but it was able to look forward to a prosperous future.

During the second period the prosperity of Grand Chapter was very great. It had passed through the trying period of formation and was firmly established on a basis from which I trust it will never be removed. Peace and harmony prevailed through its borders. Its affairs had been wisely managed, and it had attained a well-known reputation with its sister Grand Chapters throughout the world. At its eighteenth annual Convocation, it had under its control sixty-seven Chapters, with a membership of 3,102; its receipts were \$1,791.93, and it had a fund on hand amounting to \$4,281.48, a marvellous increase in every respect for such a limited period.

It could not be expected that this great increase should continue during the third period of nine years now ending. During the former period nearly all the Chapters holding under English, Irish, or Scotch warrants had given in their allegiance to the Grand Chapter of Canada. There has also, in the third period, been a daughter born unto us "The Grand Chapter of Quebec," which with the entire consent of this Grand Chapter was formed in December, 1876. Permission was given by the Grand Chapter of Canada for the Chapters under its jurisdiction in Quebec to meet, and if considered desirable to form a Grand Chapter for the Province of Quebec at the annual convocation in 1874. And at an especial convocation of this Grand Chapter held in February, 1877, for the purpose of considering the matter, the Grand Chapter of Quebec was recognized and welcomed as a sister Grand Chapter, and has since been recognized and welcomed as such, by the other Grand Chapters of the world.

It has also been the policy of this Grand Chapter not to issue warrants for Chapters near other Chapters, or in places where, from the paucity of lodges, it was not thought sufficient good material might be found to ensure the successful working of a Chapter.

Prosperity, however, has continued, and notwithstanding the loss in numbers sustained by the formation of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, during the third period of nine years now closing the number of Chapters on our roll has increased to eighty; the number of members to 3,734; the annual receipts to \$2,542.02, and Grand Chapter, notwithstanding the greatly

increased calls for benevolence and other purposes, has a fund amounting to \$9,370.90.

With this slight retrospect of the history of the Grand Chapter, I will proceed to report the occurrences of the last year, and the action I have taken on such matters as have been called to my attention.

Peace, harmony and prosperity have prevailed within our borders, but few differences have arisen between Chapters or companions, and those have been easily adjusted with the aid of the companions filling the responsible positions of District Superintendents, to whose valuable reports I will refer you for a more full and extensive view of the position and progress made in their respective districts.

PETITIONS FOR NEW CHAPTERS.

I received in November last a petition from a number of companions desirous of forming a Chapter in Bowmanville. It was not recommended by the Superintendent of the district, and I also found there were other Chapters within a short distance, so I declined to grant the dispensation asked for. In October last I received a petition from a number of companions for a dispensation to form a Chapter at Parkdale. I had some hesitation in granting their request, as Parkdale adjoins the city of Toronto, in which there are several Chapters, but it was so strongly recommended by the Chapters of the city, and also by the District Superintendent—the present G. H. of Grand Chapter—and other present and past officers, that I could not refuse. I have since had the pleasure of visiting the Chapter, with the District Superintendent, R. E. Comp. Gallow, and think the Grand Chapter will have no hesitation in granting them a warrant. This is the only new Chapter formed during the year.

VISITS.

Besides visiting Parkdale Chapter, as just mentioned, I have also had the pleasure of visiting

St. Paul's Chapter No. 65, Yorkville.

St. John's No. 6, Hamilton, when I also met the companions and officers of Hiram No. 2, Hamilton.

King Solomon's No. 8, Toronto.

St. Andrew's and St. John's No. 4, Toronto.

St. George's No. 5, London.

Careton No. 16, Ottawa.

Signet No. 34, Barrie, as well as the Chapter to which I belong, Georgian No. 56, Owen Sound.

In all I was cordially received and hospitably entertained, in many of them I saw work performed, and generally in a very satisfactory manner. I have to return my thanks to the companions of the different Chapters for their kindness to me during my visits. I have also to return my special thanks to R. E. Comp. Gallow Superintendent of the Toronto District, for accompanying me on so many occasions in my visits to the Chapters in his district. I regret that he will probably not be with us at this convocation, he having recently broken his leg. I have also to speak highly of my pleasant correspondence with various other Grand Chapter officers, more particularly of our R. Ex. Comp. McLellan, our G. S. E., whose unremitting attention to the duties of his office cannot be too highly commended.

DISPENSATIONS.

I have granted the following dispensations during the past year :—

To instal as Z., not being H.	4.
“ “ “ H. or J.	1.
“ “ “ P. M.	3.
“ “ H., not being J.	3.

In these cases I have made careful enquiries before granting the dispensations, and have satisfied myself of their necessity. In several other cases I have declined to grant dispensations.

I have also granted several dispensations to allow Chapters to meet and elect and instal officers when the regular meeting for that purpose had not been held.

BY-LAWS.

The By-laws of a number of Chapters have been submitted to me for confirmation—some being a general revision of the By-laws and others being merely one By-law to alter the night of meeting, etc. On finding that the By-laws did not conflict with the constitution, I have confirmed them.

In January last I received a letter from R. E. Comp. W. D. Gordon, Superintendent of the Central District, stating that he had removed from the district. I instructed the G. S. F. to request R. E. Comp. G. M. Wilkinson, P. D. S. to act for the remainder of the year, to which he kindly consented.

EXCHANGE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Some of the Grand Chapters of the United States having adopted a system of appointing representatives for a period of three years only, and some appointments near this Grand Chapter having expired, I recommended the re-appointment of

those companions whose term of office had expired as follows :—

R. E. Comp. Wm. Forbes, from the Grand Chapter of Illinois.

R. E. Comp, J. G. Burns, from the Grand Chapter of Maryland.

M. E. Comp. James Seymour, from the Grand Chapter of Iowa.

FINANCES.

The statements and accounts of the G. S. E. and G. Treasurer will be laid before you by those officers and I have no doubt they will be found satisfactory. I would recommend to the Finance Committee the careful consideration of the question, would it not be advisable to encourage the commutation of dues of Chapters and for that purpose to enable companions to commute their Grand Chapter dues for a fixed sum. I am satisfied that the number of unaffiliated companions is as much due to the neglect of Chapters, to regularly enforce the payment of dues, as it is to the neglect of the companions. Dues are allowed to accumulate until they amount to a sum which the companions feel unwilling and perhaps at the time unable to pay, whereas if by payment of a fixed sum at an earlier period, they might be in the future exempt from these calls, many would avail themselves of the privilege and would be preserved as valuable members of the Chapters.

OBITUARY.

In a jurisdiction so extensive we cannot hope that at an annual convocation we will not be called on to mourn over the departure of some of our companions, yet the hand of death has passed lightly over us during the past year. But two who have held official rank amongst us have been called away. R. E. Comp. A. T. Houel, P. G. Prin. Sojourner of this Grand Chapter, and a member of King Solomon's Chapter No. 8, Toronto, and V. E. Comp S. H. Blondheim, P. G. Pursuivant for a number of years, and a member of Cataraqui Chapter, No. 12, Kingston. I have also heard of the death of Comp. G. W. Andrews, S. E. of Ancient Frontenac No. 1, Kingston, and the Chapter to which I belong, Georgian Chapter, No. 56, has to mourn the loss of two valued companions, E. Comp. Richard Notter, P. Z., of the Chapter, and Comp. Thomas Scott, one of its charter members. I recommend that memorial pages be placed in our proceedings to our departed companions.

There yet remains a matter to which I feel it is necessary to

allude. I mean the difficulty which has arisen between the Grand Chapter of Quebec and the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England. After the Grand Chapter of Canada had been fully formed and recognized as having supreme authority in Canada over the Royal Arch and its subordinate lodges, including the Mark Masters, it was found that one or two English Lodges retained the right, under their warrants, of conferring the degree of Mark Master, but holding under no supreme authority. These Mark Masters, or a portion of them, apparently seeing their anomalous position, and desirous of becoming connected with some supreme authority, asked for and received warrants from the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England.

These lodges did not hold and never had held any authority from the Grand Lodge of M. M.'s of England, being in existence long before the formation of that grand body. The Grand Lodge of M. M.'s had never issued a warrant to a subordinate lodge in Canada. It had recognized the Grand Chapter of Canada as having supreme authority over M. M. lodges in Canada. It had afterwards, when the Grand Chapter of Quebec was formed, out of and with the full consent of the Grand Chapter of Canada, and had assumed over that portion of Canada known as the Province of Quebec, all the rights, privileges and responsibilities formerly belonging to the Grand Chapter of Canada, recognized the Grand Chapter of Quebec. Yet in the face of this the Grand Lodge of M. M.'s assumes a right to issue warrants and form M. M. lodges in the Province of Quebec.

It seems to me the M. M.'s who applied for warrants to the G. L. of M. M.'s of England might have with equal propriety applied to the Grand Chapter of New York or the Grand Chapter of California for warrants, and that those grand bodies might with equal propriety have granted them. In my view there is only one grand body that has a right to authorize the conferring of the M. M.'s degree in the Province of Quebec, and that is the Grand Chapter of Quebec.

Such being the case, and if Grand Chapter agrees with me, what course should this grand body take under the circumstances?

If we can believe that the representations of this Grand Chapter, added to the representations of the Grand Chapters that have already given an opinion, and of those who will undoubtedly give an opinion shortly, will have sufficient weight with the Grand Lodge of M. M. Masons of England, to induce

that grand body to reconsider their position and withdraw the warrants issued to M. M. M.'s within the territory of the Grand Chapter of Quebec. I would unhesitatingly say that no action should be taken at this Convocation further than strongly making those representations. If, however, the Grand Chapter is of opinion that it is incumbent on us to immediately take action in the matter, I think the proper course would be to declare that this Grand Chapter cannot recognize any M. M. M.'s to be made in the Province of Quebec, except those made under the authority of the Grand Chapter of Quebec.

In conclusion, companions, let me ask you to join with me in returning our heartfelt thanks to the Most High for the happy and prosperous year we have just passed, and let us pray that he may continue to preserve our Order by cementing and adorning it with every social and moral virtue. So mote it be.

HENRY MACPHERSON, G. Z.

Grand Chapter of Canada.

July 11th, 1884.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Thos. Sargant, seconded by M. E. Comp. Donald Ross, and resolved :—

That the address of the M. E. the Grand Z. be referred to the Executive Committee to report thereon during the present Convocation of Grand Chapter.

The following reports of the various Grand Superintendents of Districts were presented :—

LONDON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent, the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

In compliance with the Constitution of Grand Chapter, I beg leave to submit my Second Annual Report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in this District for the past year.

There are thirteen Chapters in the London District, to my regret all are not so active as they ought to be, some are in fact, almost dormant, from what cause I cannot tell. I find one very prevalent complaint, is that with the present regulations of Grand Chapter confining the office of First Principal to those only who had served as Past Masters, which appears to be an act of injustice to Chapter Members, who are led to believe at their exaltation that if they are found faithful to their trust they are entitled to be admitted to a full participation of the Mysteries of the Supreme Degree, upon finding that such is not the

case, unless they have been fortunate enough to have passed the Oriental Chair, they lose all interest. hence the decline of a number of Chapters. It is an established fact a very large majority of Past Masters are not Royal Arch Masons and do not desire to be, their ambition being satisfied. I trust that this barrier will soon be removed and that life and vitality will be once more seen in our Chapters.

On the 17th day of August 1883, I received a letter from Companion Cochran, of Ridgetown, stating that he had been in correspondence with some of the members of Grand Chapter in regard to starting a Chapter in Ridgetown, and also some of the members of Erie Chapter No. 73, who had just returned their warrant in consequence of being unable to maintain a Chapter in the Village of Port Stanley, and had fallen into arrears with Grand Chapter. The result of this correspondence was an application to me, upon condition of putting said Chapter in good standing with Grand Chapter, would I recommend the transfer of Erie Warrant to the prosperous Village of Ridgetown. Before taking any action in the matter I consulted as many of the old members of Erie Chapter that I could find, and also made a personal visit to Ridgetown and took a careful survey of its surroundings and came to the conclusion that there was a good field for a prosperous Chapter. I also found upon enquiry that quite a number of Master Masons were desirous of becoming Royal Arch Masons, provided they could get their degrees without having to go so far away for them. I then informed Companion Cochran that upon Erie Chapter paying up all arrears due to Grand Chapter, and asking for the return of the Warrant, I had no objections to transfer the Warrant to Ridgetown. On the 25th day of September the Warrant was in my hands, and the Companions being duly notified, I convened a meeting of as many of the old members of Erie Chapter, assisted by the members of Palestine Chapter, and received in due form the names of two companions for affiliation and ten applications for the Royal Arch degree, which were referred to a committee to report on at the next regular Convocation in October. At that meeting the Committee having reported in favor of all, the ballot was passed and all were duly elected members of Erie Chapter No. 73. Erie Chapter assisted by the officers and members of Palestine Chapter No. 54, then proceeded to confer the several degrees on eight of the candidates, which degrees were given with great effect, although greater part of the night was spent in performing the ceremonies. The election of officers for the ensuing year then took place,

electing Companion Cochran as First Principal, Companion Elliott as Second Principal, and Companion Anderson as Third Principal, upon resolution of the Chapter, Dispensations were applied for to instal the First and Second Principals to their respective offices, not being duly qualified in consequence of not having served as Principals in Chapter before, upon my recommendation were granted by the Most Excellent Grand Z. Upon receiving the documents I notified the members of Erie Chapter, and at their request and with the consent of the officers and members of Palestine Chapter No. 54, and with their assistance I installed the new officers in their respective positions, and may now add here that having paid close attention to this I may say new Chapter, I am perfectly satisfied that for once I have done a good thing for the Craft, and that the record of Erie Chapter for close working and careful attention to the laws of Royal Arch Masonry is an example worthy the imitation of some older Chapters in this District. I have visited all the Chapters that notified me of their meetings, and called the attention of the others to Clause 80 of the Constitution. Some replied wishing to defer my visit to some more favourable time, as they were doing no work, so that in all I have paid some nine official visits. The visit to Bruce Chapter, Petrolia, presided over by Ex. Companion Trotter, which I made on the 1st day of May, accompanied by Companion Butler of Palestine Chapter, who has acted the part of aide throughout this year, was one of the most pleasant and profitable that I ever experienced. The exemplification of the M. E. and R. A. Degrees was perfect and the courteous treatment after the closing of the Chapter of the visitors of that night will be long remembered by them as one of the green spots often read but rarely seen.

I had the honor of installing the officers of St. Georges, No. 5, London, Palestine, No. 54, Alymer, No. 81, and in the last two named saw some very good work done. On the 23rd April I paid St. John's Chapter No. 3 an official visit, and I was very much disappointed to find that one of the oldest Chapters so far behind in their work. I did expect something better from a city Chapter. There were a number of excuses given, but none that had any weight. I arranged to hold a Chapter of Instruction at any time that would be convenient to the city Chapter. They chose the 28th of May. I notified the Chapters in the District of the fact, but it was not so well attended as it should have been, although it was very much needed especially in the city Chapters. In the month of June I held

another Chapter of instruction in the City of St. Thomas, with much better results. It was well attended and much of its success is due to the members of Bruce and Erie Chapters, who turned out in good numbers and exemplified the work in good style. Ex. Comp. Cockran exemplifying the M. M., Ex. Comp. Slater the M. E., and Ex. Comp. Trotter the R. A. Degree, and I am fully assured that much good will result from this gathering from the great interest displayed and careful enquiry after knowledge of every part of the ceremonies that was at all obscure and for which there is no means to obtain information only by meetings of this kind when all parts are brought under discussion.

There has been but one cause of complaint brought before my notice, and that was of Ex. Comp. Miller of Ark Chapter, No. 80, wherein he complained of the action of the First Principal Ex. Comp. Craig, in not protecting his rights as a member of the said Chapter by requesting a visiting Comp. to retire from the Chapter Room on their night of meeting, with whom he had some misunderstanding and positively refused to sit with him. The First Principal refusing to comply with the request, hence the complaint on the 26th May. I visited Ark Chapter for the purpose of investigating this complaint and ruled the member's rights must be protected, but at the same time there was some good reason shown in justification of the actions of Ex. Comp. Craig, it appears that Ex. Comp. Miller had not attended his Chapter meetings of late, and the visiting Comp., Mr. Adams, being an expert in the work, had been invited to assist Ex. Comp. Craig in conferring some degrees, and as a matter of courtesy Ex. Comp. Craig disliked to ask him to retire after inviting him there and knowing the nature of the grievance, that it was merely a misconstruction of something that had been said some eighteen months prior to this time entirely foreign to Arch Masonry, considered Ex. Comp. Miller acting in an arbitrary way by making the request at that time and under the circumstances. Ex. Comp. Craig acquiesced in my ruling although it placed him in a very awkward position and jeopardized the fraternal relations existing between Ark Chapter and the Detroit Chapter, of which Comp. Adams is a prominent member, but trust by this time this difficulty has been healed and harmony prevail in Ark Chapter as it does in all other Chapters in the District.

I cannot conclude this report without expressing my thanks to Companions Stuart and Butler of Palestine Chapter who have cheerfully attended me on my journeys and rendered me valu-

able aid at all times, and to the Companions of the District of London from whom I have received the most uniform courtesy.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ROBT. MACKAY,
G. S., London District.

St. Thomas, July 3rd, 1884.

WILSON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada :

As required by the Constitution, I herewith beg leave to submit my report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the Wilson District.

I regret that I have not been able to pay that attention to the duties of the office of Grand Superintendent which its importance demands. I also regret that for several years past very little, if any, advance has been made in this District in the Royal Craft.

Of the four Chapters in the District, Mount Horeb Chapter, No. 20, Brantford, is the only Chapter that has made any progress at all. The other Chapters, as I am informed, have not met during the past year, but I trust that through the well known energy and zeal of E. Comp. R. Stark, who was lately elected First Principal of Oxford Chapter, No. 18, Woodstock, the G. S. may be able to report a better state of affairs as far as that Chapter is concerned, at the next annual convocation of Grand Chapter.

In now taking leave of the Companions of this District, I must again thank them for the cordial support and kindness which I have for so many years received from them in my intercourse with them, and trust that harmony and good fellowship may continue to prevail throughout the District.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CH. L. BEARD,
G. S. Wilson District.

Woodstock, 30th June, 1884.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada :

In compliance with the requirements of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of Canada, I beg to submit my report on the

condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the Wellington District.

There are seven Chapters in the District, viz : Waterloo, No. 32, Galt. Guelph, No. 40, Guelph ; Elora, No. 49, Elora ; Saugeen, No. 50, Walkerton ; Enterprise, No. 67, Harriston ; Grand River, No. 70, Berlin ; Ionic, No. 83, Orangeville.

I visited the following : Waterloo, No. 32, Galt ; Guelph, No. 40, Guelph ; Grand River, No. 70, and found them in good working order and in a healthy and prosperous condition. But in the case of Elora, No. 49, which has been practically dormant for several years, I found it necessary in company with a number of Companions from Guelph Chapter, to pay a series of visits with a view of placing it in its former position, which I am happy to say proved a success, and is now prospering and doing a great amount of work.

Having received no summons for meetings from either of the following Chapters, viz., Saugeen, No. 50, Enterprise, No. 67, Ionic, No. 83, although having called attention to Clause 80 of the Constitution, consequently could not visit their Chapters. With reference to Saugeen Chapter, No. 50, I have been informed by the Scribe E., Comp. Gunn, that he questions whether there are nine Royal Arch Masons in the place, rendering it impossible to hold meetings. Would therefore recommend in the interest of Grand Chapter that if some effort is not made on the part of said Chapter to reorganize, their warrant be withdrawn.

At the instance of Grand Scribe E. I notified those Chapters in arrears which I trust have duly responded.

I granted dispensation to the Companions of Elora Chapter, No. 49, to appear clothed as Royal Arch Masons at Divine Worship, held in Elora, 18th May, 1884, on which occasion I had the pleasure of being present.

I am happy to report that no Masonic complaints have been laid before me, which is an evidence that harmony prevails throughout the District.

In conclusion, I sincerely thank the Companions throughout the District for the kindness and courtesy shown me on all occasions. Also R.E.Comp. David McLellan, Grand Scribe E., for the very prompt manner with which he dealt with all communications referred to him.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN SCOON,
G. S. Wellington District.

Guelph, July 4th, 1884.

HAMILTON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z. Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada :

I have the honor to present herewith my report on the progress of Royal Arch Masonry in the Hamilton District during the year just closing.

I have officially visited the four chapters in my District, and have duly installed the officers, during the year. I find that in each case the dues have been all paid, and returns made to Grand Chapter in full up to the 31st of May, 1884.

I am happy to be able to report that the utmost harmony prevails, and nothing whatever has occurred among the Companions to mar the prosperity of our order.

The growth of membership has been large, and I know of no instance in which an objectionable member has been admitted ; in fact I am disposed to conclude that the material has been above the average.

I am glad to have the opportunity of reporting that in my District every Chapter is working in full accord with the desired work as ordered by the Grand Chapter, and which I find is not only very popular among the Companions but each Chapter is particularly proud of its labors, and very justly so, as now exemplified by the Principals and officers of the Hamilton District.

One of the most pleasant duties I have had to perform during my term of office has been in taking part in an official visit of the Most Excellent Companion the Grand Z. to The Hiram and St. John's Chapters in the City of Hamilton, on which occasion the Grand Z. was pleased to compliment Excellent Companions Dalley and Malloy and the officers of those Chapters on the faithful carrying out of, and conducting the work as laid down by the Grand Chapter of Canada, and the pleasure he (the Grand Z.) had in his visit to one of the great centres of Royal Arch Masonry.

In conclusion, I beg to tender my sincere thanks to all the Companions of the District by whose uniform courtesy and kindness my official year has been made one of great pleasure in every particular.

Faternally submitted.

W. G. REID,
G. S. Hamilton District.

Hamilton, July, 1884.

HURON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Grand Principals, Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada :

In accordance with the requirements of the Constitution, I present my report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the Huron District, over which I had the honor of being elected Grand Superintendent at the last regular Convocation of Grand Chapter.

In assuming the office I fully intended and expected to be able to visit all the Chapters in the District, but I regret to say that I have been unable to carry out my intentions—the duties of inspection of Public Schools for East Huron demanding all my time.

On the 5th of February, I visited Exeter Chapter No. 85, and installed its officers. I also visited Huron Chapter No. 30, and have pleasure in reporting both in a flourishing position.

Although unable to visit the others, I know from the notices of meetings received, that most of them are doing a good deal of work, and as I have had no complaints from any of them, I am satisfied that peace and harmony prevails.

During the year a new Regalia was purchased for the office of the Grand Superintendent—most of the funds for which was collected by my predecessor in office, Ex. Comp. Waugh.

In conclusion I beg to thank the Officers and Companions of the Huron District for the uniform kindness and courtesy extended to me during the year.

All of which is respectfully submitted

D. MCG. MALLOCH,
G. S. Huron District.

NIAGARA DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z, Grand Council, Grand Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

As required by Article 43 of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, I beg to submit my report as Grand Superintendent of the Niagara District for the past Masonic year.

There are seven Chapters in this District, namely :—

No. 19, Mount Moriah, St. Catharines.

“ 29, McCallum, Dunnville.

“ 55, Niagara, Niagara.

“ 57, King Hiram, Port Colborne.

“ 64, Willson, Welland.

“ 69, Grimsby, Grimsby. [Falls South.

“ 76, Mount Nebo, Drummondville, or Niagara

I have visited each Chapter, some of them twice, and intended to have visited all a second time, but business and sickness prevented.

NO. 19, MOUNT MORIAH, ST. CATHARINES.

This is *the* Chapter of the District, ably presided over by Ex. Comp. J. D. Christie.

I visited them on Nov. 9th, 1883, accompanied by several Companions of my own Chapter. The work was in the Mark Degree and was well done by Ex Comp. J. D. Christie, assisted by Ex. Comp. Yale.

This Chapter is strong socially and financially, and has the largest membership of any in the District.

I had not the privilege of meeting M. Ex. Comp. Seymour at this meeting.

They have made their annual report to G. C., and paid their G. C. Fees to date.

They also kindly allowed me \$5.00 towards my expenses.

This Chapter gave an exemplification of the work in the R. A. Degree June 20th, '84, Ex. Comp. J. D. Christie presiding, assisted by R. Ex. Comp. Goodman, to which I invited the Chapters of the District. A number of the Companions availed themselves of the opportunity, as also some of our American Companions. Unfortunately some personal matters at the last moment prevented my being present which I very much regretted. Information received from those present say the work was well done, our American Cousins being particularly delighted. Ex. Com. Christie is to be congratulated on the success attending this his first exemplification, and I have no doubt he will yet be found and applied to higher use in Grand Chapter.

NO. 29, M'CALLUM, DUNNVILLE.

This Chapter I visited on January 18th, 1884, accompanied by Companions Robert Thompson and W. A. Cole, both of whom will long remember it ; first for the long cold drive we had in going and returning, and second, from the hearty manner in which we were entertained after Chapter meeting.

They had no work, but I had the pleasure of installing their officers, Ex. Comp. A. Cooper, as Z, an old personal friend of my own.

This Chapter stands second as to numbers, and contains many well known Companions who should give this Chapter a prestige equal to any in the district.

I expect to find a greater interest in the minutiae of routine of

work now that Ex. Comp. A. Cooper is First Principal, who has had the G. C. returns and dues, with arrears promptly paid to date, which has not always been the rule with this Chapter.

This Chapter kindly allowed me \$5.00 towards my expenses as G. D. Supt.

NO. 55 NIAGARA, NIAGARA.

This Chapter I went to visit on November 15th, 1883, a regular meeting, but although I notified the Ex. Z. and S. E., I would visit them officially at that date, there was no meeting.

I called on such of the Companions as I could find personally, but all seemed to think it was no use in trying to sustain a Chapter in the Town of Niagara, having only one Lodge as a feeder. They however promised to have a meeting of the Chapter at an early date, and decide whether they would resuscitate the Chapter or surrender their Charter.

On examination of the books I found their last meeting was Sept. 14th, 1882, with no minutes confirmed since Sept. 7th, 1882, and then only called together the necessary meetings to exalt an applicant.

That they had made no G. C. returns since January 31st, 1882, and then in arrears \$10.60, the books being in a very unsatisfactory state.

After almost unlimited correspondence on my part (seldom getting a reply) and determining to peremptorily summons them unless they called a meeting. I got a special meeting of the Chapter for April 17th, 1884, (Good Friday) when I was present. After hearing the discussion on their affairs, I found the Chapter in a very unsatisfactory condition. About \$110.00 in debt and then paying no rent ; about \$30.00 dues in arrears, a great part of which I fear will never be collected.

When I report their books were never audited from the date of the organization of the Chapter, 1873, you will understand how they have been doing business. This I was surprised at as I know they have some good business men amongst them.

At this meeting an Audit Committee was appointed on the accounts and financial prospects to report to a special called for April 24th, 1884, at which meeting a decision was to be arrived at as to what they would do.

Since which I have received no official notice from them, although I have repeatedly written them.

I have, however, thanks to Comp. E. W. Thompson, (one of the audit committee,) who courteously replied to my enquiry, found out they have done nothing since I was there, April 17th

last, neither can the audit committee make a report on the books, being unable to get them for that purpose.

I therefore recommend that my successor be given full power to deal with them, and that unless some guarantee be at once given they are going to work, their arrears to G. C. paid, that their charter be withdrawn, their property taken charge of by the Grand District Superintendent, sold, their debts paid, and the balance paid over to Grand Chapter, giving the Companions who are clear on the books the usual certificate of withdrawal.

NO. 57, KING HIRAM, PORT COLBORNE.

This Chapter having been unfortunate by loss from fire on January 1881, had not held a meeting for almost two years. I have succeeded through the assistance of R. Ex. Comp. J. B. Neff in getting them at work.

I visited them on January 3rd, 1884, and installed their officers. I intended to have again visited them at their June meeting, but circumstances prevented. This Chapter has considerable local ability from which, after the discouragement of their loss by fire has passed off, I expect to hear good reports.

From the regularity of the receipt of their summonses they are giving attention to Chapter Work. Their G. C. returns are in and dues paid.

NO. 64, WILLSON. WELLAND.

This Chapter I visited November 28th, 1883, and installed their officers, Ex. Comp. S. E. Hopkins, Z., after which they entertained me most heartily. I also went to visit them at an emergent, May 16th, 1884, but through some misunderstanding and sickness in the family of the Ex. Z., and of Ex. Comp. Bridgman, S. E., there was no meeting.

On the examination of the records of G. C. as shown by the printed proceedings, this Chapter appears in arrears for \$10. On my first visit I made enquiry as to why this should be. R. E. Comp. I. P. Willson replied that he had paid R. Ex. Comp. Stephens, then G. S. E., August 12th, 1875, that amount on account of the Chapter, taking his receipt therefor, that said receipt had been mislaid, but that the Chapter books verified his statement. This statement was supported by the Companions generally. And from the investigation I have made in the matter, I believe it to be correct.

I therefore recommend that this Chapter be credited the amount, and that R. E. Comp. Stephens be notified by the G. S. E. to make good the amount or be dealt with by G. C., as they see fit.

This Chapter has too many able Companions each apparently expecting the other will do their work, as should they all do their share and take a live interest in their Chapter the St. Catharines Companions would have to look well to their laurels to hold the first place in the District.

I am sorry to report they have not made their G. C. returns nor paid their dues to date, although I have written them several times reminding them of it, they will therefore not appear in this years returns.

They also kindly allowed me \$4, towards my expenses as Grand District Supt.

NO. 69, GRIMSBY, GRIMSBY.

This Chapter being presided over by myself as Z, my extreme modesty (very well known to G. C.), prevented me from officially visiting it, although present at all its meetings.

I may say however, that it is sound, and one of the principal Chapters of the District. My Companions who accompanied me in some of my visitations think we are about as good as any. Among whom I desire to specially mention and thank for many favors are Ex. Comps. W. E. Millward, Ed. E. Loosley, and Comp. Robert Thompson.

G. C. returns in and fees paid to date.

NO. 76, MOUNT NEBO, DRUMMONDVILLE OR NIAGARA FALLS SO'TH.

This Chapter I visited twice, namely, on December 7th 1883, and May 9th 1884.

They have presumed too much on Ex. Comp. Smith, leaving too much of the work on him, this I trust he will kindly resent and make each officer do his own work, which will be better for the Chapter, which has considerable local ability. I foresee more interest in their Chapter work under Ex. Comp. Haight as Z, and was much pleased with Ex. Comp. Dr. McGarry's rendering of the work as H.

This Chapter changed their meetings during the Spring of 1882, to *Friday before full moon* with the approval they advise me, of the M. Ex., the G. Z., but it seems not to have been reported. They formerly held their meetings *First Friday after full moon*. G. S. E. will please note this change.

I must express my approval of the attention Comp. F. Fischer gives to his office of S. E.

This Chapter kindly gave me \$5 towards my expenses.

I have much pleasure in reporting that nothing mars the peace and harmony of the District, that I have been universally

and kindly received, and feel that the District is in better condition than when it came into my hands.

In conclusion I must express my thanks to our G. S. E., for the kindness and courtesy he has always extended to me, and to say that I believe "Wee Davie," is the right Companion in the right place. Peace to his ashes.

And to the Chapters of the District, if I have said or done any thing they may have thought harsh or out of the way, to forget it, as if so, it was done with the intention for good. If I have made any good suggestions to adopt them, that our Royal Craft may be improved.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. FORBES,
G. S., Niagara District.

Grimsby, June 30th, 1884.

TORONTO DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Grand Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

In compliance with the requirements of the Constitution, I beg respectfully to submit my report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the Toronto District.

There are thirteen Royal Arch Chapters in this District, viz :

- No. 4, St. Andrew and St. John, Toronto.
- " 8, King Solomon's, Toronto.
- " 27, Manitou, Collingwood.
- " 34, Signet, Barrie.
- " 38, Seymour, Bradford.
- " 56, Georgian, Owen Sound.
- " 60, Doric, Newmarket.
- " 62, York, Eglinton.
- " 65, St. Paul's, Toronto.
- " 77, Occident, Toronto.
- " 79, Orient, Toronto.
- " 86, Macpherson, Meaford.
- " U. D., Parkdale, Parkdale.

ST. ANDREW'S AND ST. JOHN'S, NO. 4.

This Chapter is presided over by Ex. Comp. S. Porter, a well-skilled and zealous officer. On the evening of November 16th I accompanied the Most Excellent the Grand Z., H. Macpherson officially to this Chapter, and although on this occasion no work was done, I am pleased to report that this Chapter is in a flourishing condition. The books are

neatly and correctly kept. The average attendance is fair. The Companions accorded both the Grand Z. and myself a hearty reception.

KING SOLOMON'S, NO. 8.

On the evening of October 15th I accompanied the Most Excellent the Grand Z., H. Macpherson, on an official visit to this Chapter. I have to report this Chapter as the strongest in the District, both financially and numerically, and needs no recommendation from me. The books are neatly and correctly kept, and the Chapter is in a healthy condition. R. Ex. Comp. Alex. Patterson has presided for the past two years, and is a Companion who has done a good deal for Masonry in this District. We received a royal reception from the Companions.

MANITOU, NO. 27.

This Chapter, I regret to say, I have not visited, nor have I had the pleasure of receiving their circulars. I corresponded with the Z. of this Chapter, and am sorry to report that I have received no reply.

SIGNET, NO. 34.

On April 11th, (Good Friday) I had the pleasure of accompanying the Most Excellent the Grand Z., H. Macpherson, and R. Ex. Comp. T. Sargent, Grand H., on an official visit to this Chapter. We were also accompanied by R. Ex. Comp. John Fisher, P. G. S. N., Ex. Comp. Inglis, Z., and Ex. Comp. G. J. Bennet, H. of Parkdale R. A. C., under dispensation.

The Chapter had a day's work to perform in Conferring Degrees and Exaltation. I have pleasure in testifying to the efficiency of Ex. Comp. C. L. Sanders, Z., Comps. J. McL. Stevenson and Bosanko, P. Z.'s of this Chapter, and, last but not least, that old veteran in Masonry, Most Excellent Companion, D. Spry, P. G. Z. The officers of the Chapter deserve the highest praise for the manner in which their various duties were discharged, and the hospitable manner in which they entertained their visitors. Financially this Chapter is sound. and books are excellently kept.

SEYMOUR, NO. 38.

I had the honor of visiting this Chapter officially on the evening of October 12th, and was accompanied by R. Ex. Comp. Alex. Patterson, G. S. N. and Ex. Comp. D. H. Watt, H. of Orient R. A. C., Toronto. I regret to report that Ex. Comp. Broughton, 1st Prin. of this Chapter, through sickness, has not been able to give attention to the work which otherwise

would have been done had he been well. Still I am pleased to report that the Chapter is healthy financially. On this occasion we were most hospitably entertained by R. Ex. Comp. Dr. Porter, P. G. S. T. D., and Companions.

GEORGIAN, NO. 56.

This Chapter I have not been able to visit, but feel satisfied that the Chapter has not suffered through negligence on my part, as the Companions are constantly under the watchful eye of the Most Excellent the Grand Z. I have received their circulars regularly and am pleased to note that they are not idle.

DORIC, NO. 60.

I had the honor of visiting this Chapter officially on March 5th, and was accompanied by R. Ex. Comp. John Fisher, P. G. S. N. I found the Chapter in a prosperous condition, and had the pleasure of witnessing the work of the M. Ex. Degree. The Companions gave us a cordial reception.

YORK, NO. 62.

I paid an official visit to this Chapter on the evening of their regular convocation in March. I regret to report that they have done little work for some time, and are barely recovering from their heavy loss by fire. The Chapter is well-officered, and bids fair of having a prosperous future.

ST. PAUL'S, NO. 65, (LATE ONTARIO.)

On the evening of October 10th I accompanied the Most Excellent the Grand Z. and Grand Chapter officers, on an official visit to this Chapter. The Chapter was presided over by Most Excellent Comp. F. J. Menet, P. G. Z., who received and entertained the Grand Officers in his usual pleasing and happy style. The Most Ex. Comp. the 1st Principal exalted two candidates to the Supreme Degree of the Holy Royal Arch, and seldom has it been my privilege to witness this degree more impressively conferred. This Chapter is in a prosperous condition.

OCCIDENT, NO. 77.

I visited this Chapter officially at their regular convocation in December, and again on January 13th, and assisted the Grand H., R. Ex. Comp. Thos. Sargant, to instal the officers. On both occasions I received a cordial reception. This Chapter holds its own and bids fair to have a prosperous year under the unwearied energy of the First Principal Z., Ex. Comp. John A. Wills.

ORIENT, NO. 79.

On the evening of January 24th I paid my official visit to this Chapter, and installed their officers. This Chapter has been presided over for the past two years by Ex. Comp. Andrew Park, a young but energetic and painstaking officer. This Chapter, although comparatively young, has a membership of over eighty, and steadily adding to its roll. This Chapter bids fair to have a prosperous year.

MACPHERSON, NO. 86.

I have not been able to arrange a meeting with this Chapter, but from correspondence with the First Principal, through the S. E. of Chapter, I am able to report that they are in good shape, with returns paid up to date.

PARKDALE, U. D.

A number of Companions having applied and received a Dispensation to open a Royal Arch Chapter at Parkdale, I, accompanied by R. Ex. Comp. T. Sargent, Grand H., Ex. Companions Wills and Graham, visited Parkdale on the evening of October 24th and installed Ex. Comp. Inglis, Z., Ex. Comp. Bennett, H., and Ex. Comp. Dr. Raw, J.

At their regular convocation held April 10th, I had the pleasure of accompanying the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Comp. H. Macpherson, on an official visit, when we were pleased to find they had been doing good work, and I take great pleasure in recommending that a warrant be granted to this Chapter.

DISPENSATIONS.

On four occasions I recommended to the Grand Z. the issuing of Dispensations, as follows :

- 1st, To open a R. A. Chapter at Parkdale.
- 2nd, To instal a Companion in the office of Z, he not having been installed Master of a Blue Lodge.
- 3rd, To instal a Companion in the office of Z., he not having served in the office of H.
- 4th, To permit a Chapter to instal their officers on a night, other than that provided for in their By-laws.

All of which the Most Excellent the Grand Z. was pleased to grant.

CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

Early in the year I conferred with past and present Grand Chapter officers, and officers of Chapters in this district, as to the advisability of holding a Chapter of Instruction. It was

unanimously agreed upon that a Chapter of Instruction should be held in the City of Toronto. One evening to be devoted to exemplify the degree of Mark Master Mason, another to be occupied in the exemplification of the Past Master's and Most Excellent Degrees, and one evening to be devoted for exemplifying the Supreme Degree of the Holy Royal Arch.

According to arrangement, a meeting was held on the evening of October 22nd, when the degree of Mark Master Mason was exemplified by Ex. Comp. H. J. M. Wilson and the other officers of Occident R. A. C. No. 77, Toronto.

On the evening of November 26th the Past Master's Degree was exemplified by E. Comp. W. S. S. Jackson and officers of St. Paul's R. A. C. No. 65, Toronto. At the same meeting the exemplification of the Most Excellent Degree was performed by Ex. Comp. S. Porter and officers of St. Andrew's and St. John's R. A. C. No. 4, Toronto.

On the evening of February 25th a Chapter of Instruction was held in the Chapter room of Masonic Hall, when the Supreme Degree of the Holy Royal Arch was exemplified by R. Ex. Comp. Alex. Patterson, G. S. N., and officers of King Solomon's R. A. C., No. 8, Toronto.

I am pleased to report that a large attendance of Companions was noticeable on each occasion. The work was admirably rendered, showing that the officers of the various Chapters had prepared themselves for any criticism that might take place.

I strongly recommend to my successor in office the advisability of following the example set by R. Ex. Comp. John Ross Robertson, P. G. S. Toronto District, who in 1882 held the first Chapter of Instruction, and who can proudly claim to be the first Grand Superintendent to hold a District Chapter of Instruction in Canada.

Chapters of Instruction have a tendency to bring together the officers of Chapters, and affords them opportunities of exchanging their views on different points, and instills among them enthusiasm in their work. It also tends to bring about a more uniform and correct rendering of the Ritual.

IN CONCLUSION

I am pleased to report that harmony and concord exists throughout the Toronto District, and in resigning my trust I beg to tender my sincere thanks to the Companions of Toronto District for the many acts of kindness and courtesy extended to me during my term of office.

FRANCIS GALLOW,
G. S. Toronto District.

Toronto, June 30th, 1884.

ONTARIO DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., the Grand Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

In presenting my fifth annual report I regret my inability to express satisfaction at the condition of the Royal Craft in Ontario District.

There are only six Chapters in this District, two have had no meetings at all since my last report, and one Chapter has had no meeting in four years.

Corinthian Chapter, Peterborough, is in a flourishing condition, having added sixteen new Companions since last report to Grand Chapter and more applications coming in.

Pentalpha Chapter, Oshawa, has also added a few new members to its list.

Victoria Chapter, Port Hope, holds regular meetings but has had no work this year.

I received an application for a dispensation for a new Chapter to be held at Bowmanville, but being too near Oshawa I could not recommend it favorably, Whitby being only four miles distant from Oshawa, and the Chapter at Whitby being I might say dormant, I recommended the removal of Keystone Chapter to Bowmanville, negotiations to that effect are now in process, and when accomplished, I am confident it will make a good Chapter.

In resigning my office as Grand Superintendent I wish to express my sincere thanks for the kind and generous treatment extended to me by all Companions with whom I have had the pleasure of meeting. I am amply repaid for the time I have given in knowing that the Companions appreciate my humble efforts, and I trust the same kindly feeling will be extended to my successor.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHAS. DOEBLER,
G. S. Ontario District.

Port Hope, June 26th, 1884.

PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent Grand Z., Grand Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

In compliance with the requirements of Grand Chapter, I have the honor to submit this my second report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in Prince Edward District.

Of the four Chapters composing this District, three are doing good work.

Moirs No. 7, Belleville, is in a prosperous condition doing excellent work.

Prince Edward, No. 31, is also in a very prosperous condition, presided over by very efficient officers, and adding steadily to their numbers.

Mount Sinai. No. 44, I have much pleasure in saying the Companions of this Chapter still exhibit the same life, energy and zeal displayed last year, and are adding largely to the number on their roll of membership.

Of St. Marks, No. 26, Trenton, I am very sorry to say I have nothing good to report. I have tried repeatedly, assisted by M. E. Comp. Donald Ross, P. G. Z., to arrange for holding a meeting but without success. I have written to several of the Companions, but received no answer. I would therefore recommend to Grand Chapter the withdrawal of their Charter at once.

I am pleased to say no complaints have been laid before me.

On retiring from the office of Grand Superintendent of P. E. District, I wish to express my sincere thanks to the G. Scribe E., and the Companions of Prince Edward District, for their kindness and courtesy shown me during my two years term of office.

J. H. MURNEY,
G. S. Prince Edward District.

Picton, July 7th, 1884.

NEW BRUNSWICK DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent Grand Z., and Grand Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

In making this, my third annual report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in this jurisdiction, I regret very much to state that I have not been able to visit any of the Chapters outside of this city, owing to a sad and melancholy bereavement which I sustained in my family, which rendered it impossible for me to leave my business.

I have occasionally met with members belonging to the several Chapters under my charge, and with the exception of Woodstock Chapter, No. 89, which I am informed is holding its own. The other two, St. Marks No. 11 and Botsford No. 39, is in about the same condition as I stated in my last annual report.

It affords me much pleasure to inform Grand Chapter that New Brunswick Chapter No. 10 has fully sustained my anticipations which I made in my last annual report. The following

is a synopsis of the business done in that Chapter from August 2nd, 1883, to June 14th, 1884 inclusive :

Petitions received,	19.
M. M. Degree conferred,	13.
P. M. “ “	4.
M. E. M. “ “	5.
Royal Arch “	5.

Which in my opinion will compare very favourably with any Chapter in the whole jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter.

At the regular meeting of New Brunswick Chapter in July last, I installed the officers, and it affords me much pleasure to state that the officers are well up in their work.

I also installed P. P. Z., John D. Short, Grand Steward of this Grand Chapter, which afforded the members of the Chapter much pleasure.

An application was made to me on the 5th day of June by New Brunswick Chapter for a dispensation to appear in Regalia on the 1st day of July next to assist at the Centennial celebration of the introduction of Freemasonry into New Brunswick, which I have granted.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

HENRY DUFFELL,

G. S. New Brunswick District.

Saint John, N. B., June 27th, 1884.

MANITOBA DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Grand Council, to the Right Excellent Grand Officers, and to Excellent Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

In conformity with the regulations of Grand Chapter, I have the honor to submit my report as Grand Superintendent of Manitoba District for the last year.

There are as yet but two Chapters in this District, viz :—

Prince Rupert, No. 52, Winnipeg,

Golden, No. 90, Rat Portage.

I visited Prince Rupert Chapter No. 52 at the regular convocation in Nov. last and installed the officers, and again in May last at the regular convocation, and have much pleasure in saying that never at any period of its history has it been more prosperous.

Excellent Companion John Leslie has proved himself a painstaking officer. He has got himself well up in the work conferring the Degrees with credit to himself and pleasure to those around him.

This Chapter has been most unfortunate in one of its most essential officers, the Scribe E. At the last election Companion John A. Peebles was elected to the office of S. E., and would have filled it with credit had he been permitted to remain with us. Unfortunately he was obliged to change his place of business and had it not been for our energetic Third Principal Ex. Comp. J. Y. Cain, who took hold of the books and kept them in shape we would have been badly off. Under his careful and skillful manipulation they will be in good order for the next S. E.

Golden Chapter No. 90. I visited this Chapter on the 17th of April last, and installed the officers for the ensuing year. Owing to the Companions of this Chapter not being able to get a dispensation to instal Ex. Companion Alexander as First Principal Z., of their Chapter, they were unable to hold their election and installation on the day appointed by their by-laws. They had to have a dispensation which I granted, allowing them to elect a Third Principal J. and instal.

I cannot speak too highly of this Chapter, they are certainly a painstaking hard working body of R. A. Masons. There has been an average attendance of half of the members, many of them coming on foot two and three miles. They had the misfortune to get burnt out some time ago, but Phoenix-like they have risen from their ashes and now appear in greater splendor than before. Their Chapter furniture and appointments are new and attractive, and I think the hall generally would put many an older one in the shade. I had not the pleasure of seeing any work done, but from the knowledge I have of the officers, I have not any hesitation in saying that what they do is well done. Financially they are in good condition, the whole being under the care of that energetic and zealous Mason, Ex. Comp. J. K. Brydon.

DISPENSATIONS.

At the request of the Companions of Golden R. A. Chapter, No. 90, I recommended to the M. E. the Grand Z., that he should issue his dispensation to instal Ex. Companion H. E. Alexander as First Principal Z. of Golden Chapter, which in his wisdom he did not see fit to grant.

I granted Dispensations as follows:—On the 17th April last to Golden R. A. Chapter, No. 90, to hold an election of officers and to instal them, for reasons before mentioned.

On the 22nd of May last to Prince Rupert R. A. Chapter, No. 52, to wear R. A. clothing at the funeral of Comp. Speers. On the 24th to the same Chapter to wear R. A. clothing, to attend Divine service (St. John's Day).

A petition for a new Chapter to be held in Winnipeg has been partially signed which I hope to be able to get completed and forwarded to you shortly.

In conclusion would say that I think Capitular Masonry is in a very healthy condition in this District, probably more so than any other branch of our beloved order.

Before closing I wish to express my hearty thanks to the Companions of the two Chapters over which I have the honor to preside as Grand Supt., for the many courtesies extended to me during my term of office.

Respectfully submitted.

C. F. FORREST,
G. S. Manitoba District.

Winnipeg, Manitoba, June 24, 1884.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Thos. Sargent, seconded by R. E. Comp. J. B. Nixon, and resolved :—

That the Reports of the Grand Superintendents of Districts be received and referred to the Executive Committee to report thereon during the present Convocation of Grand Chapter.

R. E. Comp. David McLellan, Grand Scribe E., submitted the Annual Statement of Moneys received during the past year, together with the books, etc. He also submitted the Annual Statement of R. E. Comp. Edward Mitchell, Grand Treasurer, of Receipts and disbursements, with vouchers attached.

ANNUAL STATEMENT, JUNE 30TH, 1884.

DAVID McLELLAN, G. S. E., in account with Grand Chapter.

No. 1—Anc't Frontenac..\$	11 50	Brought forward . . .	\$1360 80
" 2—The Hiram.. . . .	95 50	No. 61—Granite	28 15
" 3—St. Johns.. . . .	45 25	" 62—York	6 70
" 4—St. Andrew & St. John.. . . .	77 00	" 63—Havelock.. . . .	32 00
" 5—St. George's.. . . .	40 25	" 64—Willson.. . . .	11 00
" 6—St. Johns.. . . .	95 65	" 65—St. Paul's.. . . .	29 25
" 7—Moir.. . . .	73 50	" 66—Seaforth	1 00
" 8—King Solomon's.. .	1 00	" 67—Enterprise.. . . .	8 00
" 10—New Brunswick.. .	59 40	" 68—Maitland.. . . .	3 00
" 11—St. Mark's	5 00	" 69—Grimsby	13 75
" 12—Cataraqui.. . . .	21 75	" 70—Grand River.. . .	15 50
" 16—Carleton.. . . .	33 50	" 71—Prince of Wales..	5 60
" 18—Oxford.. . . .	9 50	" 73—Erie	62 25
" 19—Mount Moriah.. .	35 40	" 75—St. Clair.. . . .	18 00
" 20—Mount Horeb.. . .	18 50	" 76—Mount Nebo . . .	15 40
" 22—Grenville.. . . .	37 10	" 77—Occident	78 35
" 24—Tecumseh.. . . .	16 25	" 78—Minnewawa.. . .	4 60
" 27—Manitou.. . . .	15 75	" 79—Orient	46 00
" 28—Pentalpha.. . . .	33 10	" 80—Ark	27 95
" 29—McCallum.. . . .	32 60	" 81—Aylmer.. . . .	7 20
" 30—Huron.. . . .	24 50	" 82—Shuniah	6 00
" 32—Waterloo.. . . .	30 45	" 83—Ionic.. . . .	3 80
" 34—Signet.. . . .	62 95	" 85—Exeter.. . . .	26 25
" 36—Corinthian	56 25	" 86—Macpherson.. . .	13 00
" 37—Victoria	9 50	" 87—Wentworth.. . .	62 00
" 39—Botsford	10 80	" 88—Macnabb.. . . .	25 60
" 40—Guelph.. . . .	52 45	" 89—Woodstock.. . .	26 75
" 44—Mount Sinai.. . .	31 00	" 90—Golden.. . . .	59 90
" 47—Wellington.. . . .	18 20	U. D.—Parkdale.. . .	49 00
" 48—St. Johns.. . . .	4 00	W. D. Gordon con. 20c., I.	
" 49—Elora.. . . .	16 50	P. Willson con. 2cc.,	
" 52—Prince Rupert.. .	63 50	E. H. D. Hall, cere-	
" 53—Bruce.. . . .	46 50	monies, \$5.. . . .	5 40
" 54—Palestine.. . . .	52 60	Interest on \$4,500 Domin-	
" 56—Georgian.. . . .	31 70	ion Stock.. . . .	225 00
" 57—King Hiram.. . .	18 40	Interest on \$1,500 Toronto	
" 59—Sussex.. . . .	44 50	Land Security.. . .	150 00
" 60—Doric.. . . .	29 50	Interest on Bank Deposit..	114 82
Carried forward. . . .	\$1360 80		
			\$2542 02

CASH STATEMENT.

1884.		1883.	
June 30—To Receipts ...	\$2542 02	Oct 4—By G. Treas	\$279 20
		“ 31—“ “ ...	210 10
		Nov. 30—“ “ ...	24 40
		Dec. 31—“ “ ...	24 90
		1884.	
		Jan. 31—“ “	136 90
		Feb. 29—“ “	26 80
		Mar. 31—“ “	28 20
		Aprl. 30—“ “	160 50
		May 31—“ “	191 30
		June 30—“ “	114 82
		“ 30—“ “	1344 90
	<u>\$2542 02</u>		<u>\$2542 02</u>

RECAPITULATION.

Certificates.....	\$ 673 00
Dues.....	834 50
Registration Fees..	390 30
Dispensations.	58 00
Warrants.....	30 00
Constitutions..	31 40
Ceremonies.	35 00
Interest on \$4,500 Dominion Stock	225 00
Interest on \$1,500 Toronto Land Security	150 00
Interest on Bank Deposits.....	114 82
	<u>\$2542 02</u>

E. MITCHELL, GRAND TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH GRAND CHAPTER R. A. M.

1883.		1884.		1885.		1886.		1887.		1888.		1889.		1890.		1891.		1892.		1893.		1894.		1895.		1896.		1897.		1898.		1899.		1900.		1901.		1902.		1903.		1904.		1905.		1906.		1907.		1908.		1909.		1910.		1911.		1912.		1913.		1914.		1915.		1916.		1917.		1918.		1919.		1920.		1921.		1922.		1923.		1924.		1925.		1926.		1927.		1928.		1929.		1930.		1931.		1932.		1933.		1934.		1935.		1936.		1937.		1938.		1939.		1940.		1941.		1942.		1943.		1944.		1945.		1946.		1947.		1948.		1949.		1950.		1951.		1952.		1953.		1954.		1955.		1956.		1957.		1958.		1959.		1960.		1961.		1962.		1963.		1964.		1965.		1966.		1967.		1968.		1969.		1970.		1971.		1972.		1973.		1974.		1975.		1976.		1977.		1978.		1979.		1980.		1981.		1982.		1983.		1984.		1985.		1986.		1987.		1988.		1989.		1990.		1991.		1992.		1993.		1994.		1995.		1996.		1997.		1998.		1999.		2000.		2001.		2002.		2003.		2004.		2005.		2006.		2007.		2008.		2009.		2010.		2011.		2012.		2013.		2014.		2015.		2016.		2017.		2018.		2019.		2020.		2021.		2022.		2023.		2024.		2025.		2026.		2027.		2028.		2029.		2030.		2031.		2032.		2033.		2034.		2035.		2036.		2037.		2038.		2039.		2040.		2041.		2042.		2043.		2044.		2045.		2046.		2047.		2048.		2049.		2050.		2051.		2052.		2053.		2054.		2055.		2056.		2057.		2058.		2059.		2060.		2061.		2062.		2063.		2064.		2065.		2066.		2067.		2068.		2069.		2070.		2071.		2072.		2073.		2074.		2075.		2076.		2077.		2078.		2079.		2080.		2081.		2082.		2083.		2084.		2085.		2086.		2087.		2088.		2089.		2090.		2091.		2092.		2093.		2094.		2095.		2096.		2097.		2098.		2099.		2100.		2101.		2102.		2103.		2104.		2105.		2106.		2107.		2108.		2109.		2110.		2111.		2112.		2113.		2114.		2115.		2116.		2117.		2118.		2119.		2120.		2121.		2122.		2123.		2124.		2125.		2126.		2127.		2128.		2129.		2130.		2131.		2132.		2133.		2134.		2135.		2136.		2137.		2138.		2139.		2140.		2141.		2142.		2143.		2144.		2145.		2146.		2147.		2148.		2149.		2150.		2151.		2152.		2153.		2154.		2155.		2156.		2157.		2158.		2159.		2160.		2161.		2162.		2163.		2164.		2165.		2166.		2167.		2168.		2169.		2170.		2171.		2172.		2173.		2174.		2175.		2176.		2177.		2178.		2179.		2180.		2181.		2182.		2183.		2184.		2185.		2186.		2187.		2188.		2189.		2190.		2191.		2192.		2193.		2194.		2195.		2196.		2197.		2198.		2199.		2200.		2201.		2202.		2203.		2204.		2205.		2206.		2207.		2208.		2209.		2210.		2211.		2212.		2213.		2214.		2215.		2216.		2217.		2218.		2219.		2220.		2221.		2222.		2223.		2224.		2225.		2226.		2227.		2228.		2229.		2230.		2231.		2232.		2233.		2234.		2235.		2236.		2237.		2238.		2239.		2240.		2241.		2242.		2243.		2244.		2245.		2246.		2247.		2248.		2249.		2250.		2251.		2252.		2253.		2254.		2255.		2256.		2257.		2258.		2259.		2260.		2261.		2262.		2263.		2264.		2265.		2266.		2267.		2268.		2269.		2270.		2271.		2272.		2273.		2274.		2275.		2276.		2277.		2278.		2279.		2280.		2281.		2282.		2283.		2284.		2285.		2286.		2287.		2288.		2289.		2290.		2291.		2292.		2293.		2294.		2295.		2296.		2297.		2298.		2299.		2300.		2301.		2302.		2303.		2304.		2305.		2306.		2307.		2308.		2309.		2310.		2311.		2312.		2313.		2314.		2315.		2316.		2317.		2318.		2319.		2320.		2321.		2322.		2323.		2324.		2325.		2326.		2327.		2328.		2329.		2330.		2331.		2332.		2333.		2334.		2335.		2336.		2337.		2338.		2339.		2340.		2341.		2342.		2343.		2344.		2345.		2346.		2347.		2348.		2349.		2350.		2351.		2352.		2353.		2354.		2355.		2356.		2357.		2358.		2359.		2360.		2361.		2362.		2363.		2364.		2365.		2366.		2367.		2368.		2369.		2370.		2371.		2372.		2373.		2374.		2375.		2376.		2377.		2378.		2379.		2380.		2381.		2382.		2383.		2384.		2385.		2386.		2387.		2388.		2389.		2390.		2391.		2392.		2393.		2394.		2395.		2396.		2397.		2398.		2399.		2400.		2401.		2402.		2403.		2404.		2405.		2406.		2407.		2408.		2409.		2410.		2411.		2412.		2413.		2414.		2415.		2416.		2417.		2418.		2419.		2420.		2421.		2422.		2423.		2424.		2425.		2426.		2427.		2428.		2429.		2430.		2431.		2432.		2433.		2434.		2435.		2436.		2437.		2438.		2439.		2440.		2441.		2442.		2443.		2444.		2445.		2446.		2447.		2448.		2449.		2450.		2451.		2452.		2453.		2454.		2455.		2456.		2457.		2458.		2459.		2460.		2461.		2462.		2463.		2464.		2465.		2466.		2467.		2468.		2469.		2470.		2471.		2472.		2473.		2474.		2475.		2476.		2477.		2478.		2479.		2480.		2481.		2482.		2483.		2484.		2485.		2486.		2487.		2488.		2489.		2490.		2491.		2492.		2493.		2494.		2495.		2496.		2497.		2498.		2499.		2500.		2501.		2502.		2503.		2504.		2505.		2506.		2507.		2508.		2509.		2510.		2511.		2512.		2513.		2514.		2515.		2516.		2517.		2518.		2519.		2520.		2521.		2522.		2523.		2524.		2525.		2526.		2527.		2528.		2529.		2530.		2531.		2532.		2533.		2534.		2535.		2536.		2537.		2538.		2539.		2540.		2541.		2542.		2543.		2544.		2545.		2546.		2547.		2548.		2549.		2550.		2551.		2552.		2553.		2554.		2555.		2556.		2557.		2558.		2559.		2560.		2561.		2562.		2563.		2564.		2565.		2566.		2567.		2568.		2569.		2570.		2571.		2572.		2573.		2574.		2575.		2576.		2577.		2578.		2579.		2580.		2581.		2582.		2583.		2584.		2585.		2586.		2587.		2588.		2589.		2590.		2591.		2592.		2593.		2594.		2595.		2596.		2597.		2598.		2599.		2600.		2601.		2602.		2603.		2604.		2605.		2606.		2607.		2608.		2609.		2610.		2611.		2612.		2613.		2614.		2615.		2616.		2617.		2618.		2619.		2620.		2621.		2622.		2623.		2624.		2625.		2626.		2627.		2628.		2629.		2630.		2631.		2632.		2633.		2634.		2635.		2636.		2637.		2638.		2639.		2640.		2641.		2642.		2643.		2644.		2645.		2646.		2647.		2648.		2649.		2650.		2651.		2652.		2653.		2654.		2655.		2656.		2657.		2658.		2659.		2660.		2661.		2662.		2663.		2664.		2665.		2666.		2667.		2668.		2669.		2670.		2671.		2672.		2673.		2674.		2675.		2676.		2677.		2678.		2679.		2680.		2681.		2682.		2683.		2684.		2685.		2686.		2687.		2688.		2689.		2690.		2691.		2692.		2693.		2694.		2695.		2696.		2697.		2698.		2699.		2700.		2701.		2702.		2703.		2704.		2705.		2706.		2707.		2708.		2709.		2710.		2711.		2712.		2713.		2714.		2715.		2716.		2717.		2718.		2719.		2720.		2721.		2722.		2723.		2724.		2725.		2726.		2727.		2728.		2729.		2730.		2731.		2732.		2733.		2734.		2735.		2736.		2737.		2738.		2739.		2740.		2741.		2742.		2743.		2744.		2745.		2746.		2747.		2748.		2749.		2750.		2751.		2752.		2753.		2754.		2755.		2756.		2757.		2758.		2759.		2760.		2761.		2762.		2763.		2764.		2765.		2766.		2767.		2768.		2769.		2770.		2771.		2772.		2773.		2774.		2775.		2776.		2777.		2778.		2779.		2780.		2781.		2782.		2783.		2784.		2785.		2786.		2787.		2788.		2789.		2790.		2791.		2792.		2793.		2794.		2795.		2796.		2797.		2798.		2799.		2800.		2801.		2802.		2803.		2804.		2805.		2806.		2807.		2808.		2809.		2810.		2811.		2812.		2813.		2814.		2815.		2816.		2817.		2818.		2819.		2820.		2821.		2822.		2823.		2824.		2825.		2826.		2827.		2828.		2829.		2830.		2831.		2832.		2833.		2834.		2835.		2836.		2837.		2838.		2839.		2840.		2841.		2842.		2843.		2844.		2845.		2846.		2847.		2848.		2849.		2850.		2851.		2852.		2853.		2854.		2855.		2856.		2857.		2858.		2859.		2860.		2861.		2862.		2863.		2864.		2865.		2866.		2867.		2868.		2869.		2870.		2871.		2872.		2873.		2874.		2875.		2876.		2877.		2878.		2879.		2880.		2881.		2882.		2883.		2884.		2885.		2886.		2887.		2888.		2889.		2890.		2891.		2892.		2893.		2894.		2895.		2896.		2897.		2898.		2899.		2900.		2901.		2902.		2903.		2904.		2905.		2906.		2907.		2908.		2909.		2910.		2911.		2912.		2913.		291	
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ASSETS.

Five per cent. Dominion Stock.....	\$4500 00
Toronto House Building Association, (par).....	1500 00
Cash as per Balance.....	3370 90
	\$9370 90

We hereby certify that the balance at credit of E. Mitchell, Grand Treasurer of the Grand Chapter, in the books of this Branch at close of business at this date is \$3370 90.

E. MITCHELL, Manager.
H. H. MORRIS, Accountant.

Moved by R. E. Comp. J. B. Nixon, seconded by R. E. Comp. Thos. Sargent, and resolved :—

That the Annual Statements of the Grand S. E. and Grand Treasurer, be received and referred to the Executive Committee for audit.

R. E. Comp. Henry Robertson, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented the Report of the Committee, which on motion of R. E. Comp. Thos. Sargent, seconded by R. E. Comp. Robt. Hendry, jr., was received and ordered to be printed as an appendix to the Proceedings.

A letter of apology was then read from R. E. Comp. John G. Robinson, Grand Registrar, regretting that unavoidable absence from the city will prevent him from attending Grand Chapter.

An official letter was then read from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Illinois notifying this Grand Chapter of the death of E. Companion John P. Ferns, Grand Steward of the Grand Chapter of Illinois, who died in the city of Chicago, on the 5th day of March, A. D. 1884.

Also a letter from the Grand Secretary pro. tem., of the Grand Chapter of Iowa, informing this Grand Chapter of the Death of their Most Worthy and efficient Grand Secretary R. E. Comp. William B. Langridge, who was called to the Grand Chapter above on the 4th day of August, 1883. His friends were all who knew him ; his enemies none. His death was untimely and his brethren mourn.

The Grand Scribe E., then presented a handsomely bound copy of the 4th vol. of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Iowa, including the years 1879, '80, '81, and '82.

The Executive Committee beg leave to report as follows, viz :

AUDIT AND FINANCE REPORT.

The Committee on Audit and Finance beg to report that they have examined the books of the Grand Scribe E. and Grand Treasurer up to June 30th, and find them correct.

The receipts and disbursements for the past year have been as follows :

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand		\$2,807 99
Certificates	\$673 00	
Dues	834 50	
Registration fees	390 30	
Dispensations	58 00	
Warrants	30 00	
Constitutions	31 40	
Ceremonies	35 00	
Interest on \$4,500 Dominion Stock	225 00	
Interest on \$1,500 Toronto Land Security Co.	150 00	
Interest on Bank Deposits	114 82	
		2,542 02
		\$5350 01

DISBURSEMENTS.

Grand Chapter Regalia	\$334 00	
Insurance on Grand Chapter property	5 00	
Past Grand Z., Incidentals, 2 years 1882 3, 1883-4	50 00	
Certificates, Rolph, Smith & Co.,	210 00	
J. B. Traves, printing proceedings 1883	175 15	
W. Bruce, engrossing warrants	10 00	
Smith Bros., D. Ross presentation	180 37	
Foreign Correspondence 1883	50 00	
Grand Scribe E., salary one year	700 00	
“ “ Incidentals	64 59	
Mrs. Harris, benevolent grant	200 00	
Cash on deposit	3,370 90	
		\$5,350 01

ASSETS.

Dominion Stock, bearing 5% interest	\$4,500 00	
Toronto Land Security Co.	1,500 00	
Cash on deposit	3,370 90	
		\$9,370 90

LIABILITIES.

Royal, Insurance Co	\$ 5 00	
James Jolley, trunk	7 50	
J. B. Traves, printing	16 75	
Foreign Correspondence, 1884	50 00	
Grand Scribe E., Incidentals 1884-85	65 00	
		\$144 25

The contract for printing having expired, Grand Scribe E. invited new tenders. We recommend that the tender of A. McPherson, of Hamilton, be accepted, it being the lowest, and that a bond be taken for the performance of the work, if at any time the work is unsatisfactory, the Grand Z. has power to cancel the said contract.

JAMES B. NIXON,
Chairman.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Thos. Sargent, seconded by R. E. Comp. J. B. Nixon, and resolved :—

That the report of the Executive Committee on Audit and Finance be received and adopted.

WARRANTS.

Your Committee appointed on Warrants, beg leave to report as follows :—

That we have examined the Minute Books of the Parkdale Chapter now working under dispensation, and find them regular. Recommend that a Warrant be issued.

We find that the application from the Comps. at Alliston for a Warrant, is without the usual recommendation from the Grand Supt., for that District. We therefore recommend that the petition be referred to the Grand Z.

Respectfully submitted.

W. G. REID,
Chairman.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Thos. Sargent, seconded by R. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, and resolved :—

That the Report of the Executive Committee on Warrants be received and adopted.

CONDITION OF CAPITULAR MASONRY.

To the M. E. the Grand First Principal, Council and Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

The Committee on the Condition of Capitular Masonry beg to report that they have examined the reports of London, Wilson, Wellington, Hamilton, Huron, Niagara, Toronto, Ontario, Prince Edward, New Brunswick and Manitoba Districts. No report has been received from the Central District. The Grand Supt. of this District, R. E. Comp. Gordon, having removed to New Brunswick, shortly after his installation to office. Your Committee note with pleasure the favorable reports of the Hamilton, Toronto, Niagara, Prince Edward, New Brunswick, and Manitoba Districts, but regret that in London and Wilson Districts the condition of some of the Chapters is not as satisfactory as could be wished for.

It is gratifying to see by the reports from Toronto and London Districts that the Grand Superintendents have held Chapters of Instruction, which have been attended with excellent results. It should be the aim of Superintendents, as soon as possible after assuming their duties, to arrange for Chapters of Instruction to be held to suit the convenience of Companions, so that as large an attendance as possible may be secured. A

correct knowledge of the work is thus imparted and uniformity attained.

Some of the Grand Superintendents refer to many of their Chapters as being weak and in an unsatisfactory condition. This is notably the case at Niagara in Niagara District, Whitby in Ontario District, and Walkerton in Wellington District. Your Committee would respectfully recommend that this matter receive the especial attention of Superintendents during the coming year. It would be most desirable if Chapters are weak or nearly dormant and in this condition for years, that prompt steps be taken either to consolidate or if dormant, either transfer or withdraw the warrants.

Your Committee are pleased to learn that the Royal Craft is making good progress in the North-West, and under the care of our esteemed R. E. Companion C. F. Forrest, promises great results in the future. The Grand Supt. of Manitoba writes of R. A. Masonry being in a healthier condition than any other branch of our beloved order.

Your Committee recommend that Grand Superintendents see that all Chapter property is fully insured.

Your Committee recommend that the Grand Scribe E. be instructed to place the sum of \$10 to the credit of Willson Chapter, Welland, paid by them in 1875, but through the error of the then G. S. E., not credited.

Your Committee trust that the good example set by the Grand Superintendents of Hamilton and Niagara Districts in visiting all the Chapters, and Toronto nearly all in the Districts under their charge, will be followed by the Companions who will have the honor this year of presiding over the several Districts. The reports of the Districts named are of a most pleasing character. clear, concise and interesting.

Death, the great leveller, has dealt mercifully with the members of this Grand Chapter during the past year, and we are called upon to record the name of but one—whose kindly face we shall forever miss from our gatherings. R. E. Comp. A. T. Houel, of Toronto, a Past Grand Officer of this Grand Chapter, a companion held in high esteem, an enthusiastic mason and good friend was called to the Great Beyond in November last. May we endeavor to imitate his virtues, with happy recollections of the many occasions when he sat side by side with us in our Counsels.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. ROSS ROBERTSON.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Thos. Sargent, seconded by R. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson, and resolved :—

That the Report of the Executive Committee on the condition of Capitular Masonry be received and adopted.

REPORT ON THE GRAND Z.'s ADDRESS.

The Executive Committee have had under their consideration the address of the M. E. the Grand Z., and beg leave to report as follows :—

From the historical sketch contained in the address it is gratifying to know that the Capitular branch of our Royal Art has made such rapid progress during the last decade, especially as to the fact that all the Chapters of the Royal Arch in this our jurisdiction are now working under direct obedience to this Grand Chapter.

The Executive Committee notes with much pleasure the careful supervision exercised by the M. Ex. the Grand Z. in granting dispensations for new Chapters, and to instal Principals not having the constitutional qualifications.

They are pleased to learn of the continued exchange of fraternal courtesies with sister Grand Chapters, as evidenced by the re-appointment of the Grand Representatives mentioned in the address, and recommend that the same be confirmed.

The Executive Committee approve of the suggestion that the commutation of dues by the subordinate Chapters be practised, due care being taken as to the funding of the commutation fee, so that the standing of the individual Companion on the register of the Grand Chapter may be assured.

Your Committee, while deeply regretting that the Grand Chapter is called upon to mourn over the departure of some of our Companions, would join with the Grand Z. in an expression of thankfulness that in the mercy of the Most High the hand of death has passed so lightly over us during the past year, and endorse the recommendation that memorial pages be placed in our proceedings to the memory of those deceased companions who have held office in this Grand Chapter.

With regard to the difficulty which has arisen in our sister province of Quebec by the establishment of Mark Lodges there by the Grand Mark Lodge of England, your committee are of opinion that this act constitutes an invasion of the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, which does not seem to be warranted by the excuses offered in justification of

their action. Your Committee thoroughly agree with the remarks of the Grand Z. upon this subject.

They recommend that such representations be made to the Grand Mark Lodge of England as will induce that Grand body to reconsider their position and withdraw the warrants issued to Mark Master Masons within the territory of the Grand Chapter of Quebec.

Your Committee would further recommend that in the event of these representations failing to accomplish the desired object the Grand Z. be empowered to prohibit intercourse with all Mark Master Masons made in Quebec under any authority save that of the Grand Chapter of Quebec.

The Executive Committee cannot conclude this report without bearing testimony to the able and efficient manner in which the Grand Z. has performed the functions of his high office during the past year. They feel that the interests of the Grand Chapter have been safe in his hands and trust that he may long be spared to aid this Grand Chapter by his ability and experience, as his many good qualities and kindly disposition have endeared him to the love and regard of his companions.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

HENRY ROBERTSON,
Chairman.

Toronto, July 11th, 1884.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Thos. Sargant, seconded by R. E. Comp. Henry Robertson :—

That the Report of the Executive Committee on the M. Ex. the Grand Z's address be received and adopted.

Moved in amendment by M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, P. G. Z. seconded by M. E. Comp. Donald Ross, P. G. Z. :—

That the last clause of the report be erased and the following substituted therefor, viz :—Your Committee would further recommend that in the event of these representations failing to accomplish the desired object within six months from the present date, all fraternal intercourse between this Grand Chapter and the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales shall be suspended until such time as the said Grand Lodge shall withdraw its warrants issued to, and erecting Lodges of Mark Master Masons in the Province of Quebec, and cease to exercise any authority within said Province.

On the vote being taken, the Report as amended was carried by a large majority.

M. E. Comp. T. S. Parvin, the P. G. H. P. of Iowa, having to leave to take the train on his homeward journey, made quite a feeling and fraternal address previous to retiring from the Grand Chapter, stating that it would afford him pleasure to report the kindly and cordial manner in which he had been received during his visit here, and he also extended a most hearty invitation to the members of Grand Chapter to visit the Grand Chapter of Iowa at their annual Convocation in October of this year.

The M. E. the Grand Z replied in a few well chosen remarks in which he stated if it had been a pleasure for you to visit us it was equally a pleasure for us to receive so distinguished a Comp. at our annual convocation.

In accordance with notice given at the last Annual Convocation it was then moved by E. Comp. D. H. Watt, seconded by R. E. Comp. Robert Ramsay :—

That clause 65 of the Book of Constitution be amended by striking out the words “Unless he be an installed Master or Past Master of a Regular Lodge.”—Lost.

REPORT ON BENEVOLENCE.

To the Most Excellent, the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

Your Committee appointed to prepare Rules for Applications for relief and for grants from the funds of benevolence, as also for a system of supervision thereof :

Begin to report that the following shall be the Rules of Grand Chapter :

1. That Grand Chapter appoint a Committee on Benevolence consisting of three members of Grand Chapter, who elect among themselves one of their number as chairman, and of whom two shall be a quorum to transact its business.

2. That of the first Committee on Benevolence appointed by Grand Chapter, the one member shall be appointed to hold office for three years, the second for two years, and the third for one year, and all until their respective successors have been duly appointed.

3. That every subsequent year Grand Chapter appoint one member for said Committee to hold office for three years and until his successor has been duly appointed.

4. That vacancies in the said Committee by death, resignation or otherwise are to be filled by Grand Chapter.

5. That if any member of said Committee is absent from any of its meetings, the Most Excellent Grand Z may appoint any

other member of Grand Chapter to take the place of such absent member.

6. That the duties of the Committee on Benevolence shall be :

a. To meet annually during the week of the Convocation of Grand Chapter, at the place where such Convocation is to be held and on such day preceding the same as the Chairman of that Committee may name and appoint.

b. To prepare from time to time, subject to the approval of the Grand Chapter, forms for applications for relief, forms for Returns by Private Chapters, and for other purposes in connection with their several duties.

c. To carefully examine all applications for relief and all Returns made by Private Chapters and received by that Committee.

d. To award, subject to the approval of the Grand Chapter, upon such applications for relief, such sums for grants as they may deem proper to award, and to recommend Grand Chapter to grant ; or to reject such which by them are not deemed worthy of aid, having at the same time due regard to the masonic principle that no class distinction be introduced, that equal justice be administered to all applicants for relief and that the aggregate of the sums so granted in any one year do not exceed the income of the benevolent fund for the same period.

e. To report to Grand Chapter annually upon all such applications for relief, upon the sums awarded, upon the applications rejected, and upon all returns by private Chapters received.

f. To keep proper accounts of all applications for relief, of all grants made thereon, and of all returns by private Chapters, for ready reference.

7. That all applications for relief must be made upon a printed form, which will be furnished by the Grand Scribe E. when applied for.

8. That it shall be imperative to answer correctly the several questions in such printed forms.

9. That applications for relief shall be made through a private Chapter, signed by the First Principal and by the Scribe E. thereof, and with the seal of such Chapter attached ; and that in no case shall any such application be made through individual Companions.

10. That all applications for relief shall be sent to and be in the hands of the Grand Scribe E. before the first day of July immediately preceding the Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter.

11. That all grants from the funds of benevolence shall be payable in two equal half yearly payments ; by an order issued by the Chairman of the Executive Committee, countersigned by the Grand Scribe E., and drawn upon the Grand Treasurer in favor of the grantee and of the First Principal of the Chapter from which the application for such grant issued, and that it shall require the endorsation upon such order of both the grantee and of the said First Principal before the Grand Treasurer is authorized to honor such order.

12. That all private Chapters through whose First Principal such orders have been made payable shall, on or before the fifteenth day of June immediately preceeding the Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter, prepare and forward to the Grand Scribe E. a return upon a printed form, which will be furnished by the Grand Scribe E. when applied for. That in such return there shall be shown in detail the whole amount of the grant or grants made payable through such First Principal during the current fiscal year, as also the whole amount of such grant or grants paid over to the grantee or grantees during that period ; together with such other information as may be required by such printed form of return. Such return shall be signed by the First Principal and by the Scribe E. of such Chapter, and have its seal attached thereto.

13. That no order for any subsequent grant be issued until the said return for preceding grants shall have been received and proved to be correct by said Committee.

14. Provided nevertheless, that it shall be competent for two or more private Chapters to form themselves into a Local Board of Relief, and for such Board to elect a Chairman and a Secretary-Treasurer, and that when such formation has been approved of by Grand Chapter, all the rights, privileges and duties heretofore conferred or imposed upon a private Chapter, First Principal, and Scribe E. respectively, shall also be respectively, conferred and imposed upon such Local Board of Relief, Chairman and Secretary-Treasurer, and that the order mentioned in the Eleventh Rule shall be drawn in favor of the grantee and of the Secretary-Treasurer of such Board.

All of which is fraternally submitted by

OTTO KLOTZ,	}	Committee.
DANIEL SPRY,		
L. H. HENDERSON.		

It was moved by E. Comp. Otto. Klotz, seconded by M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry :—

That the Report of the Committee for Grants of Benevolence be received and adopted.

Moved in amendment by R. Ex. Comp. Kivas Tully, seconded by E. Com. J. K. Leslie: That the report be amended by striking out the word "three" on the second line of Article No. 1 of said report, and inserting the words "six, three to be elected, and three to be appointed by the M. Ex. the Grand Z.," and the report so amended be adopted. On a vote being taken the amendment was declared lost, and the original motion was adopted.

REPORT ON PRESENTATION TO MOST EX. COMP. DONALD ROSS, P. G. Z.

At the last Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter, a committee was appointed to procure a suitable testimonial for Most Ex. Comp. Donald Ross, P. G. Z., as a token of the respect and esteem in which he is held by the members of Grand Chapter.

The Committee beg respectfully to report that after consulting with the Most Ex. Companion, they ordered a fine gold hunting-case watch and chain, and presented them on the 29th day of November last, at the Masonic Hall, Kingston, before a large gathering of Royal Arch Masons assembled for that purpose, after which the Kingston Companions invited Most Ex. Comp. Donald Ross and your Committee to a sumptuous dinner at the Union Hotel. R. Ex. Comp. R. Hendry, jr., presided and made the presentation, which was accompanied by an address finely illuminated. The following is a copy:

GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF CANADA.

To Most Excellent Companion Donald Ross, P. G. Z.

DEAR SIR & MOST EXCELLENT COMPANION:

The Committee to whom was entrusted the pleasing duty of procuring a testimonial to mark in a suitable manner the appreciation by Grand Chapter of your valuable services as Grand Z. for the years 1881 and 1882, now beg your acceptance of the accompanying gold watch and chain, and express the hope that this slight gift will meet with your approval and daily and hourly remind you of the love and esteem of your fellow companions.

To the faithful and zealous discharge of the onerous duties of presiding officer of this Grand Chapter is due in a large measure its continued prosperity and advancement, and we

are led to hope that you, like your illustrious predecessors, will continue to give Grand Chapter the benefit of your ripened experience in the future.

We take this opportunity of conveying to you the loving regards and fraternal well-wishes, not only of the officers and members of Grand Chapter, but of every Royal Arch Mason in this jurisdiction for your continued welfare and prosperity, and may T. G. A. O. T. U. have us all in His kind care and keeping for evermore.

Signed on behalf of Grand Chapter,

ROBERT HENDRY, jr., Chairman,	} <i>Committee.</i>
L. H. HENDERSON,	
J. H. MURNEY,	

Kingston, 29th November, 1883.

Most Ex. Companion Ross made the following reply :

To Right Excellent Companion Robert Hendry, Jr., and Companions :

I cannot find words to express to you what I feel this evening for the complimentary and fraternal address which you have been pleased to honour me with on behalf of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

In accepting the exalted position of Grand Z., to which you did me the honor to elect me for two years I did so with the determination to maintain the honour and prosperity of this Grand Chapter.

With the assistance of the several officers, who, I am glad to say, rendered my duties only a pleasure, I am rejoiced to learn that they have been conducive to the welfare and prosperity of this Grand Chapter. As in the past, so in the future will I feel it my bounden duty to give this Grand Chapter and subordinate Chapters my assistance when privileged so to do.

I am pleased to know that my humble efforts have met with your approval.

In accepting this handsome and valuable testimonial at your hands, believe me, I shall always wear it with pleasure, and, when I look at it, it will remind me of the many happy moments that I have spent with my Companions and brethren in the advancement of our noble Order, and I pray the great Jehovah may be with us all.

Signed,

DONALD ROSS, P. G. Z.

Kingston, 29th November, 1883.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Robt. Hendry, jr., seconded by M. E. Comp. L. H. Henderson, and resolved :—

That the report of the Presentation Committee be received and adopted.

The election of officers was then proceeded with, the Grand Scribes acting as scrutineers of the ballot.

The following named Companions were declared duly elected :—

M. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, Owen Sound, re-elc'd Grand Z.

R. E. " Thomas Sargent, Toronto, " " H.

" " Robert Hendry, jr, Kingston, " " J.

The Grand Chapter was then called from labor to refreshments for fifteen minutes.

The Grand Chapter resumed labor.

PRESENT.

M. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, Grand Z.

R. E. " Thomas Sargent, " H.

" " Robert Hendry, jr., " J.

On the Throne.

Grand Officers, Members and Representatives.

The following Companions were nominated by the Representatives from the respective Districts, and approved by the M. E. Grand Z., as

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

R. E. Comp.	R. B. Hungerford, London,	London	District.
" "	C. L. Beard, Woodstock,		
	re-elected,	Wilson	"
" "	John Scoon, Guelph, re-elected	Wellington	"
E. "	John Malloy, Hamilton,	Hamilton	"
R. E. "	D. McG. Malloch, Clinton,		
	re-elected,	Huron	"
" "	William Forbes, Grimsby,		
	re-elected,	Niagara	"
V. E. "	J. McL. Stevenson, Barrie,	Toronto	"
E. "	Duncan Fraser, Peterboro',	Ontario	"
E. "	James Walters, Napanee,	P. Edward	"
V. E. "	Edwin Plant, Ottawa,	Central	"
R. E. "	Henry Duffell, St. John,		
	re-elected,	New Bruns.	"
" "	C. F. Forrest, Winnipeg,		
	re-elected,	Manitoba	"

The election of officers was then continued, with the following result :

R. E. Comp.	David McLellan, Hamilton, re-elected,	G'd. S. E.
E. "	Otto Klotz, Preston,	" S. N.
E. "	R. Radcliffe, Goderich,	" P. S.
R. E. "	E. Mitchell, Hamilton, re-elected,	" Treas.
E. "	Wm. Waddington, jr., Kingston,	" Reg.

and by an open vote of Grand Chapter, Comp. W. W. Summers, Hamilton, Grand Janitor.

The following named Companions were elected members of the Executive Committee for the ensuing year :

R. E. Comp.	Henry Robertson,	Collingwood.
" "	John Creasor,	Owen Sound.
" "	Jas. B. Nixon,	Toronto.
" "	J. J. Mason,	Hamilton.
" "	John Ross Robertson,	Toronto.

M. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, Grand Z., was then pleased to appoint the following Companions as members of the Executive Committee for the ensuing year, viz :

R. E. Comp.	A. G. Smyth,	London.
" "	T. C. Macnabb,	Chatham.
" "	Wm. Gibson,	Beamsville
" "	W. G. Reid,	Hamilton.
E. "	Wm. Smith,	Almonte.

The following named Companions were elected members of the Committee on Benevolence :

	E. Comp.	Otto Klotz	Preston.
M. E.	"	Daniel Spry,	Barrie.
R. E.	"	J. J. Mason,	Hamiton.

M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, Past Grand Z., then proceeded with the installation and investiture of the newly elected officers, who were proclaimed with the usual Masonic ceremony.

At a subsequent date the M. E. Grand Z. was pleased to notify the Grand Scribe E. of the following appointments to office for the ensuing year, viz :—

APPOINTED OFFICERS.

V. E. Comp.	George D. Dickson, Belleville,	Grand	1st Asst. Soj.
" "	Jas. D. Christie, St. Catharines,	"	2nd "
" "	Andrew Park, Toronto,	"	Sword Bea'r.
" "	Wm. G. S. Reynolds, Ottawa,	"	M. of Veils.
" "	Peter A. Craig, Windsor,	"	Stan'd Bea'r.
" "	James A. Frazer, Milton,	"	Dir. of Cer.
" "	Jas. Canfield, Woodstock,	"	Organist.
" "	David W. Mayes, Newmarket,	"	Pursuivant.
" "	Wm. F. Murray, Clinton,	"	Steward.
" "	Charles Hendry, Conestoga,	"	"
" "	John Overall, London,	"	"
" "	H. B. F. Odell, Oshawa,	"	"

The M. Ex. Grand Z. directed that each Companion elected or appointed to office, not having presented himself for installation or investiture, is to be installed or invested in the Chapter of which he is a member.

MOTIONS.

Moved by R. E. Comp. J. B. Nixon, seconded by R. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford, and resolved :—

That the Grand Scribe F. be instructed to have four hundred copies of the Proceedings of Grand Chapter printed for those years of its existence which are out of print, and that tenders for the performance of the work be invited to be sent to the Chairman of the Executive Committee, the lowest tender, if otherwise satisfactory, to be accepted.

Moved by M. Ex. Comp. Daniel Spry, seconded by M. Ex. Comp. Donald Ross, and resolved,—

That the thanks of this Grand Chapter are due and are hereby tendered to the M. Ex., the Grand Chapter of the State of Iowa, for the handsomely bound copy of the transactions of that Grand Body for the years 1879, '80, '81, '82, being Vol IV.

Moved by M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, seconded by R. E. Comp. Thos. Sargent,—

That the musical portion of the ceremonies published by Comp. Sparling, if approved by the M. Ex., the Grand Z., be adopted by this Grand Chapter and recommended to the several Chapters.

Moved by M. E. Comp. Donald Ross, seconded by R. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford, and resolved,—

That the cordial thanks of this Grand Chapter be tendered to the Masonic Hall Board, and the Companions of the city of

Toronto for the excellent arrangements made for the holding of the Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter, and for the generous hospitality extended to the representatives and visitors.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

The following Notices of Motion for next Annual Convocation were given, viz :—

By E. Comp. D. H. Watt, Toronto,—

I give notice that at the next Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter I will move that Clause 65 of the Book of Constitution be amended by striking out the words “ Unless he be an Installed Master or Past Master of a Regular Lodge, nor ”.—

By R. E. Comp. Thomas Sargant, Toronto,—

I give notice that at the next Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter, I will move that Clause 48 of the Book of Constitution be amended by inserting on the fourth line after the words (ex-officio members) “ and the Benevolent Committee.”

The labors of Grand Chapter being ended, it was closed in Ample Form, at 2 p. m.



David In Lellan.
GRAND SCRIBE E.

RETURN OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS ACCORDING TO LAST RETURNS RECEIVED.

ON	NAME.	WHERE HELD.	NIGHT OF MEETING.	FIRST PRINCIPAL Z.	SCRIBE E.
1	Ancient Frontenac...	Kingston C	Third Tuesday in Nov., Feb., May, & Aug.	H. J. Wilkinson...	W. M. Drennan.
2	The Hiram	Hamilton H	1st Monday every m th except July & Aug.	Chas. H. Foster	James Stiff.
3	St. John's.....	London..... L	4th Wed'y in every m th except Dec. 3rd	B. W. Greer.....	John Siddons.
4	St. And'w & St. John	Toronto..... T	Third Friday of every month.	Seymour Porter....	R. F. Smyth.
5	St. George's.....	London..... L	Third Tuesday in every month.....	Albert O. Jeffery....	W. R. Browne.
6	St. John's.....	Hamilton.... H	2nd Thurs. every m th except July & Aug.	Jas. A. Malcolm....	A. Doherty.
7	Molra.....	Belleville. P. E	First Tuesday of every month.....	John J. Farley.....	A. McGinnis.
8	King Solomon's....	Toronto..... T	First Wednesday of every month.....	P. J. Slatter.....	Geo. Clarke.
10	New Brunswick....	St. John.... N. B	First Thursday of every month.....	William J. Logan....	D. S. Stewart
11	St. Mark's	St. Andrews N. B	Second Thursday of every month.....	W. D. Hartt	W. D. Forster.
12	Cataraqui.....	Kingston.... C	2nd Monday in Feb. May, Aug. & Nov.	A. Shaw.....	W. S. Smyth.
15	Wawanosh	Sarnia L	2nd Friday in Jan. April, July & Oct....	Thos. S. Ellison	J. J. Clement.
16	Carleton	Ottawa..... C	Third Thursday of every month.....	W. G. Reynolds..	W. H. Morgan.
18	Oxford.....	Woodstock.. W	Third Friday of every month.....	Robert Stark	James. Wilson.
19	Mount Moriah.....	St. Catharines N	Friday on or before f. moon of every m th	John D. Christie. .	George Burch.
20	Mount Horeb....	Brantford ... W	First Wednesday of every month.....	Robert Ashton.....	Robert J. Fraser.
22	Grenville.....	Prescott..... C	Second Tuesday in month.	E. C. Feilde.....	John Francis.
23	Ezra.....	Simcoe..... W	Second Wednesday of every month.....	Robt. Rochester....	John Wilson.
24	Tecumseh.	Stratford.... H N	Last Tuesday of every month.....	A. Matheson.....	W. R. Knox.
26	St. Mark's	Trenton..... P. E	Second Wednesday of every month.	No. returns.....	No returns.
27	Manitou	Collingwood. T	First Friday of every month.....	John Nettleton....	W. T. Toner.
28	Pentalpha.....	Oshawa..... O	Second Friday of every month.....	Robt. McCaw.....	C. W. Smith.
29	McCallum	Dunnville.... N	Friday on or after full moon.....	Archibald Couper ..	Samuel Walther.
30	Huron	Goderich.... H N	Third Tuesday of every month.....	Richard Radcliffe..	Isaac F. Toms.
31	Prince Edward....	Pictou..... P. E	Tuesday on or after full moon	John Warring.....	Donald Ross.
32	Waterloo.....	Galt..... W N	Second Monday of every month	Wm. Cowan.....	Jas. M. Hood.

RETURN OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.—Continued.

ON	NAME.	WHERE HELD.	NIGHT OF MEETING.	FIRST PRINCIPAL Z.	SCRIBE E.
34	Signet.....	Barrie.....	T Second Tuesday of every month	C. L. Sanders.	Wm. Downie
35	Keystone.....	Whitby.....	O Third Tuesday of every month	John Stanton	J. H. Addison
36	Corinthian	Peterboro.....	O Third Tuesday of every month	W. Paterson	Jas. Alexander
37	Victoria	Port Hope	O Second Thursday of every month	W. B. Wallace	J. B. Traves
38	Seymour	Bradford	T Friday on or before f moon of every m th	H. S. Broughton ..	Chas. Elliott
39	Botsford	Moncton..N. B.	3rd Monday of every month	J. W. Wallace	Geo. Ackman
40	Guelph	Guelph.....	WN Second Friday of month	H. Lockwood.....	R. Gemmell
41	Harris.....	Ingersoll.....	W 1st Tuesday after f moon of every month	C. H. Slawson	W. A. Woolson
44	Mount Sinai	Napanee	P.E Wednesday after full moon	Ogden Hinch	J. G Fennell
45	Excelsior	Colborne	O First Thursday of every month	No returns	No returns
46	St. James	St. Mary's	HN Second Wednesday of every month	No returns	No returns
47	Wellington	Chatham	L Thursday on or before f moon of ev'y m th	W. H. Farley.	Chas. Crofts
48	St. John's	Cobourg	O Friday on or before f moon of every m th	R. J. Winch.	Geo. J. Stephens
49	Elora	Elora.....	WN Wednesday after full moon every month	W. F. Savage	Francis Dalby
50	Saugeen	Walkerton..WN	Third Tuesday of every month	Jos. Craig.	J. F. H. Gunn
52	Prince Rupert	Winnipeg	M First Tuesday of every month	John Leslie.....	J. A. Peebles
53	Bruce.....	Petrolia	L First Thursday in each month	David Trotter	Jas. W. Ford
54	Palestine	St Thomas..L	Second Thursday in the month	George Cockran. ..	W. E. Idsardi
55	Niagara	Niagara	N Thursday after full moon	John M. Clement ..	Gage J. Miller
56	Georgian	Owen Sound	O Third Tuesday of every month	Allan Cameron	H. P. Adair
57	King Hiram	Pt Colborne..N	First Thursday of every month	Thos. Rae.....	J. C. Jordan
58	Pembroke	Pembroke	C First Monday of every month	No returns	No returns
59	Sussex.....	Brockville	C Friday on or before f moon of ev'y month	Thos. Wilkinson ..	Wm. King
60	Doric.....	Newmarket	T First Wednesday in month	R. Flood	Philip T. Lee
61	Granite	Almonte.....	C Second Monday of every month	Robert Pollock	Ralph Hill
62	York	Eglington.....	T Thursday on or after full moon	John Knox Leslie ..	John Shepard
63	Havelock	Kincardine..HN	Third Thursday in each month	Benj. Freer.....	Jas S. Greenhill

64	Willson	Welland	N	Last Wednesday of every month	S. E. Hopkins	M. W. Bridgman
65	St. Paul's	Toronto	T	Second Wednesday of every month	W. S. S. Jackson	Fred. F. Manley
66	Seaforth	Clinton	H	Friday before full moon of every month	D. McG. Malloch	M. R. Counter
67	Enterprise	Harriston	W	Tuesday after full moon of every month	Alex. Michie	H. H. Dewar
68	Maitland	Maitland	C	3rd Thursday in Mch, June, Sept & Dec.	Andrew Thos. Dunn	John Moore
69	Grimsbv	Grimsbv	N	1st Wed in July, Sep, Nov, Jan, Mar, & May	Wm. Forbes	R. Thompson
70	Grand River	Berlin	W	1st Monday after full moon of every m'th	Charles Hendry	Alex. Millar
71	Prince of Wales	Amherstburg	L	1st Wednesday on or before full moon	Wm. T. Wilkinson	Geo. Green
73	Erie	Ridgctown	L	Wednesday on or before full moon	D. Cochran	B. F. Sutherland
74	Beaver	Strathroy	L	2nd Tuesday of every month	W. H. Grant	Jas. Noble
75	St. Clair	Milton	H	2nd Wednesday of each month	John Lyon	E. Dixon
76	Mount Nebo	Niagara Falls	N	Friday on or before full moon of every m'th	George Hyatt	F. Fischer
77	Occident	Toronto	T	Second Monday of every month	John A. Wills	Jos. Wm. Hickson
78	Minnewawa	Park Hill	L	3rd Wednesday of every month	E. M. Bigg	W. M. Thompson
79	Orient	Toronto	T	4th Thursday of every month	Andrew Park	Malcolm Gibbs
80	Ark	Windsor	L	2nd Monday in each month	P. A. Craig	John McNally
81	Aylmer	Aylmer	L	Friday on or after full moon of every m'th	S. S. Clutton	J. Connell
82	Shuniah	PALanding	H	Friday on or before full moon	A. W. Thompson	R. E. Mitchell
83	Ionic	Orangeville	W	Tuesday after full moon of every month	S. H. McKitrick	Hugh E. Reid
84	Lebanon	Wingham	H	1st Wednesday of every month	—	Jas. Fleuty
85	Exeter	Exeter	H	1st Tuesday of every month	G. A. K. McLeod	W. G. Collins
86	Macpherson	Meaford	T	2nd Thursday of each month	Thos. McCarroll	F. S. Clark
87	Wentworth	Dundas	H	Tuesday on or before full moon	H. Bickford	John Poole
88	Macnabb	Dresden	L	Monday after full moon of every month	Thos. C. Macnabb	S. J. Ball
89	Woodstock	Woodstock	N	3rd Thursday in each month	A. McFarlan	D. McLeod Vince
90	Golden	Rat Portage	M	4th Wednesday of every month	John K. Brydon	W. H. Carnovsky
91	Parkdale	Parkdale	T	2nd Thursday of every month	John Inglis	—

NOTE.—The capital letters on the right of "where held" column indicate the several Districts, viz :— L., London ; W., Wilson ; WN., Wellington ; H., Hamilton ; HN., Huron ; N., Niagara ; T., Toronto ; O., Ontario ; P. E., Prince Edward ; C., Central ; N. B., New Brunswick ; M. Manitoba ;

BALANCES IN LEDGER, JUNE 30, 1884.

ON	NAME OF CHAPTER.	PLACE OF MEETING.	WARRANT GRANTED.	NO RETURNS	LAST RETURNS.	AM'T THEN DUE.	CR'DIT
1	Ancient Frontenac	Kingston	A. D. 1795..	.....	May 31, 1884	.....	.....
2	The Hiram	Hamilton	" 1820..	.....	" "	.....	.....
3	St. John's	London	" 1844..	.....	" "	.....	.....
4	St. Andrew and St. John	Toronto	" 1847..	.....	" "	.....	2 00
5	St. George's	London	" 1854	.....	" "	.....	6 75
6	St. John's	Hamilton	" 1855..	.....	" "	.....	.....
7	Moir	Belleville	" 1856..	.....	" "	.....	.....
8	King Solomon's	Toronto	" 1857	.....	" "	57 00	.....
10	New Brunswick	St. John, N. B.	Feb. 24, 1859-	.....	Jan. 31, 1883	.....	.....
11	St. Mark's	St. Andrew, N. B.	Sept, 1846..	1884	May 31, 1884	.....	.....
12	Catarqui	Kingston	A. D. 1859.	.....	Jan. 31, 1883	.....	.....
15	Wawanosh	Sarnia	Feb. 8, 1860	1884	May 31, 1884	.....	.....
16	Carleton	Ottawa .....	" "	.....	" "	.....	.....
18	Oxford	Woodstock .....	" "	.....	" "	.....	.....
19	Mount Moriah	St Catharines	Feb. 21, 1861	.....	" "	.....	2 00
20	Mount Horeb	Brantford .....	" "	.....	" "	.....	.....
22	Grenville	Prescott	Feb. 20, 1862	.....	" "	50	.....
23	Ezra	Simcoe	" "	1883-84..	Jan. 31, 1882	19 60	.....
24	Tecumseh	Stratford	Aug. 11, 1863	.....	May 31, 1884	.....	.....
26	St. Mark's	Trenton	Aug. 14, 1866	1874 to 1884 inclusive	Jan. 31, 1873	19 00	.....
27	Manitou	Collingwood .....	" "	.....	May 31, 1884	.....	.....
28	Pentalpha	Oshawa	Aug. 13, 1867	.....	" "	.....	.....
29	McCallum	Dunnville .....	" "	.....	" "	.....	.....
30	Huron	Goderich .....	" "	.....	" "	.....	.....
31	Prince Edward	Pictou	Aug. 11, 1868	1884	Jan. 31, 1883	.....	.....
32	Waterloo	Galt .....	" "	.....	May 31, 1884	.....	.....

34	Signet	Barrie	Aug. 10, 1869	.....	.....	.....	.....
35	Keystone	Whitby	"	.....	.....	May 31, 1884	9 10
36	Corinthian	Peterboro'	"	.....	.....	Jan. 31, 1880	.....
37	Victoria	Port Hope	"	.....	.....	May 31, 1884	.....
38	Seymour	Bradford	Aug. 10, 1870	.....	.....	Jan. 31, 1883	.....
39	Botsford	Moncton, N. B.	"	.....	.....	"	.....
40	Guelph	Guelph	"	.....	.....	Jan. 31, 1884	.....
41	Harris	Ingersoll	"	.....	.....	May 31, 1884	.....
44	Mount Sinai	Napanee	Aug. 9, 1871	.....	.....	Jan. 31, 1882	.....
45	Excelsior	Colborne	"	.....	.....	May 31, 1884	.....
46	St. James	St. Mary's	"	.....	.....	Jan. 31, 1880	13 60
47	Wellington	Chatham	"	.....	.....	"	2 75
48	St. John's	Cobourg	Aug. 14, 1872	.....	.....	"	.....
49	Elora	Elora	"	.....	.....	"	.....
50	Saugeen	Walkerton	"	.....	.....	"	.....
52	Prince Rupert's	Winnipeg	"	.....	.....	"	15 20
53	Bruce	Petrolia	"	.....	.....	May 31, 1884	.....
54	Palestine	St. Thomas	Aug. 13, 1873	.....	.....	"	6 00
55	Niagara	Niagara	"	.....	.....	Jan. 31, 1882	.....
56	Georgian	Owen Sound	"	.....	.....	May 31, 1884	.....
57	King Hiram	Port Colborne	Aug. 14, 1874	.....	.....	"	4 00
58	Pembroke	Pembroke	"	.....	.....	Jan. 31, 1875	10 00
59	Sussex	Brockville	"	.....	.....	May 31, 1884	.....
60	Doric	Newmarket	"	.....	.....	"	.....
61	Granite	Almonte	"	.....	.....	"	.....
62	York	Eglington	"	.....	.....	Jan. 31, 1883	.....
63	Havelock	Kincardine	"	.....	.....	May 31, 1884	.....
64	Willson	Welland	Aug. 11, 1875	.....	.....	Jan. 31, 1883	10 00
65	St. Paul's	Toronto	"	.....	.....	May 31, 1884	.....
66	Seaforth	Clinton	"	.....	.....	Jan. 31, 1883	.....
67	Enterprise	Harriston	"	.....	.....	"	.....
68	Maitland	Maitland	Aug. 11, 1875	.....	.....	"	.....

BALANCES IN LEDGER, JUNE 30. 1884.—Continued.

NAME OF CHAPTER.	PLACE OF MEETING.	WARRANT GRANTED.	NO RETURNS	LAST RETURNS.	AM'T THEN DUE.	CR'DIT
69 Grimsby	Grimsby .....	"	.....	May 31, 1884	.....	.....
70 Grand River	Berlin	Aug. 9, 1876	.....	"	.....	.....
71 Prince of Wales	Amherstburg	"	 1884	Jan. 31, 1883	.....	.....
73 Erie	Ridgetown .....	"	.....	May 31, 1884	1 00	.....
74 Beaver	Strathroy	"	 1884	Jan. 31, 1883	.....	.....
75 St. Clair	Milton .....	"	.....	May 31, 1884	.....	.....
76 Mount Nebo	Niagara Falls south ..	"	.....	"	.....	.....
77 Occident	Toronto .....	"	.....	"	.....	.....
78 Minnewawa	Park Hill	Aug. 8, 1877	 1884	Jan. 31, 1883	.....	.....
79 Orient	Toronto .....	"	.....	May 31, 1884	.....	.....
80 Ark	Windor .....	"	.....	"	.....	.....
81 Aylmer	Aylmer	Aug. 14, 1878	 1884	Jan. 31, 1883	.....	.....
82 Shuniah	Pr. Arthur's Landing ..	"	 1884	"	.....	.....
83 Ionic	Orangeville	"	 1884	"	.....	.....
84 Lebanon	Wingham	"	 1884	"	.....	.....
85 Exeter	Exeter	Aug. 12, 1879	.....	May 31, 1884	.....	.....
86 Macpherson	Meaford	July 16, 1880	.....	"	.....	.....
87 Wentworth	Dundas .....	"	.....	"	.....	.....
88 Macnabb	Dresden	July 14, 1882	 1884	Jan. 31, 1883	.....	.....
89 Woodstock	Woodstock, N. B.	July 13, 1883	.....	May 31, 1884	.....	.....
90 Golden	Rat Portage	"	 1884	June 30, 1883	.....	.....
91 Parkdale	Parkdale	July 11, 1884	.....	.....	.....	.....

No.	NAME OF CHAPTER.	PLACE OF MEETING.	No. of Admissions.	No. of Joinings.	Restr'd	Withdrawals.	Suspensions.	Expel'd	Deaths.	No. of Mem'bs
1	Ancient Frontenac..	Kingston	...	2	..	4	3	.....	2	40
2	The Hiram.....	Hamilton	12	3	.....	6	.....	.....	1	194
3	St. John's.....	London	7	1	.....	2	4	.....	1	95
4	St. Andrew and St. John	Toronto	17	2	.....	1	2	.....	3	100
5	St. George's.....	London.	8	3	.....	2	5	.....	4	83
6	St. John's.....	Hamilton	18	1	.....	5	7	.....	.....	195
7	Moir.....	Belleville.	17	.....	.....	6	6	.....	1	107
8	King Solomon's.....	Toronto	18	1	.....	3	.....	.....	1	154
10	New Brunswick.....	St. John, N. B.	11	.....	.....	16	2	.....	2	94
11	St. Mark's.....	St. Andrew's, N. B.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	17
12	Cataraqui.....	Kingston	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	75
15	Wawanosh.....	Sarnia	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	71
16	Carleton.....	Ottawa.	9	.....	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	70
18	Oxford.....	Woodstock.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	38
19	Mount Moriah.....	St. Catharines.	7	.....	.....	1	3	.....	1	72
20	Mount Horeb.....	Brantford	3	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	36
22	Grenville.....	Prescott.	1	1	.....	1	1	.....	1	42
23	Ezra.....	Simcoe.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	19
24	Tecumseh.....	Stratford	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	45
26	St. Mark's.....	Trenton.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	26
27	Manitou.....	Collingwood	2	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	31
28	Pentalpha.....	Oshawa.	4	.....	.....	2	4	.....	.....	30
29	McCallum.....	Dunnville	6	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	62
30	Huron.....	Goderich.	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	50
31	Prince Edward.....	Picton.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40
32	Waterloo.....	Galt.	8	2	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	33

RECAPITULATION.

Number of Chapters on Roll.	80
“ “ “ Represented in Grand Chapter....	54
“ “ Registrations Reported.....	324
“ “ Joinings “	39
“ “ Restorations “	11
“ “ Withdrawals “	107
“ “ Suspensions “	102
“ “ Deaths “	41
“ “ Expulsions “	0
Total number of members on Roll of Grand Chapter.....	3734
Total amount of Receipts, 1883-84.....	\$2542.02

SUSPENSIONS.

NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

No. 1.	Ancient Frontenac, Kingston.
William Byers.	| Thomas A. Parnell.
	Samuel McCammon.
No. 3.	St. John's, London.
H. L. Kifner.	| A. S. Abbot.
John Stevenson.	| F. St. G. Thompson.
No. 4.	St. Andrew and St. John, Toronto.
R. B. Albertson,	| T. D. Ledyard.
No. 5.	St. George's, London.
F. H. Mitchell,	| J. Higginbottom.
J. R. Minhinnick,	| J. Harens.
	J. Sutton.
No. 6.	St. John's, Hamilton.
S. S. Malcomson.	| G. H. Walker.
W. Hayden.	| J. Howard.
W. S. Burnett.	| W. E. Mitchell.
	J. C. Mahoney.
No. 7.	Moir, Belleville.
J. Addison.	| W. S. Cook.
J. Hagerman.	| J. E. Nixon.
W. J. Palmer.	| R. W. H. N. Dawson.
No. 10.	New Brunswick, St. John, N. B.
Dugald Kelly.	| W. Y. Theal.
No. 19.	Mount Moriah, St. Catharines.
Peter McCarthy.	| W. R. Rawlings.
	Wm. H. Andrews.
No. 22.	Grenville, Prescott.
	T. S. Detlor.

No. 27.	Manitou, Collingwood. C. R. Vantassell.	
No. 28.	Pentalpha, Oshawa.	
Herbert Matthews.		C. N. Vars.
John Irwin.		Hosea Allen.
No. 32.	Waterloo, Galt. Thomas Welsh.	
No. 37.	Victoria, Port Hope.	
Wm. Minnus.		John Thompson.
Jos. Smith.		W. S. Griffin.
No. 44.	Mount Sinai, Napanee.	
Fred. Richardson.		S. Gibson.
H. L. Geddes.		Amos H. Allison.
	J. C. Huffman.	
No. 52.	Prince Rupert's, Winnipeg.	
James Henderson.		D. B. Murray.
J. H. House.		C. C. Montgomery.
W. F. Luxton.		D. H. Cameron.
S. L. Bedson.		W. B. Thibadeau.
Gilbert McMicken.		Wm. Crawford.
Joseph Hewson.		
No. 54.	Palestine, St. Thomas.	
F. H. Henderson.		J. Hannon.
Benj. Martin.		G. W. Boyd.
C. Glasgow.		A. Musselman.
W. Glasgow.		Geo. Duncan.
H. G. Hunt.		Thos. Bennet.
No. 57.	King Hiram, Port Colborne. Claudius Eakins.	
No. 60.	Doric, Newmarket.	
Rupert Adam.		R. M. Cooper.
No. 65.	St. Paul's, Toronto.	
T. D. Ledyard.		G. Crawford.
No. 73.	Erie, Ridgeway.	
Nelson McCall.		Wm. McGeachy.
James Fawcett.		Orion Campbell.
John Ellison.		John Edgecombe.
F. A. Henderson.		T. D. Brown.
Olio Scealey.		Hubbard Ellison.
Elihu Moore.		Stephen B. Mills.
George Duncan.		James Hebb'ethwaithe.
Allen Binns.		A. E. Ferguson.
	George Hemphill.	

No. 75.	St. Clair, Milton. John W. Moyes.
No. 76.	Mount Nebo, Drummondville.
Sidney Barnett.	| John Murray.
No. 77.	Occident, Toronto.
John Kerr.	| J. Mansfield.
Rich. M. Persee.	| Wm. E. Bennett.
	C. E. Davenport.
No. 85.	Exeter, Exeter.
	Simion Ellis Jones.
No. 86.	Macpherson, Meaford.
	M. A. Dillon.

SUSPENSION, UNMASONIC CONDUCT.

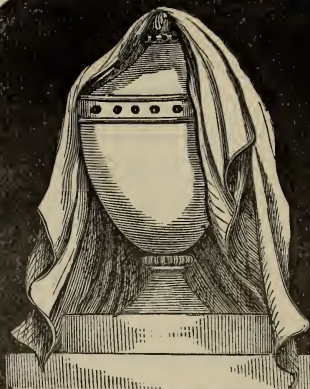
Herbert D. P. LeCappelain.

RESTORATIONS.

No. 6.	St. John's, Hamilton.
	Alex. S. Ogg.
No. 8.	King Solomon's, Toronto.
	A. McPhee.
No. 16.	Carleton, Ottawa.
	Peter Miller.
No. 28.	Pentalpha, Oshawa.
C. W. Smith.	| Wm. McCabe.
	R. McPherson.
No. 52.	Prince Rupert's, Winnipeg.
W. F. Luxton.	| C. C. Montgomery.
No. 54.	Palestine, St. Thomas.
Frank McNeil.	| Luke Ellison.
No. 63.	Havelock, Kincardine.
	William Kennedy.

AT REST.

NAME.	NAME AND NUMBER OF CHAPTER.	DATE.
Mitchell, G. B.	1, Anc't Frontenac.	No date.
Andrews, Geo. W. . . .	1, " "	March 7, 1884.
Waugh, Robert	2, The Hiram	November 8, 1883.
Hamilton, B. W.	3, St. John's	May 7, 1883.
Matheson, Thomas. . .	4, St. And. & St John	" 2, 1883.
Stear, William.	4, " "	" 8, 1884.
Tinline, John	4, " "	" 25, 1884.
Beattie, William	5, St. George's	April 4, 1883.
Ardell, James	5, "	September 16, 1883.
Shaw, T	5, "	January 3, 1884.
Nitschke, —	5, "	" 30, 1884.
Clark, R'v. W. C. D. D	7, Moira	October 16, 1883.
Houel, A. T	8, King Solomon's . .	December 10, 1883.
Libby, Frank	10, Brunswick	July 19, 1883.
Wickett, John H. . . .	10, "	August 3, 1877.
Barker, Edward I . . .	12, Cataraqui	April 27, 1884.
Blondheim, S. H . . .	12, "	September 13, 1883.
Holder, B	12, "	May 17, 1883.
Johnston, William . .	12, "	June 23, 1883.
Clement, P. B.	19, Mount Moriah . .	April 7, 1884.
McCallum, John	20, Mount Horeb . .	No date.
Adams, John C	22, Grenville	May 11, 1884.
Matheson, Thomas . .	24, Tecumseh	" 7, 1883.
Nelles, Wm. H.	29, McCallum	No date.
Kirby, Andrew	30, Huron	February 12, 1883.
Meeking, E. S.	34, Signet	December 26, 1883.
Taylor, Robert	36, Corinthian	No date.
Kennedy, John	36, "	No date.
Biscoe, Frederick . . .	40, Guelph	May 18, 1884.
Warren, T. D.	54, Palestine	April —, 1879.
Marriott, Wm	54, "	April 16, 1884.
Scott, Thomas	56, Georgian	September 17, 1883.
Notter, Richard	56, "	October 1, 1883.
Gain, Thomas	60, Doric	May 4, 1884.
Bower, A. P	61, Granite	September 26, 1883.
Archer, W. H.	65, St. Paul's	March 14, 1883.
Newton, Jno. H., MD	73, Erie	September 25, 1883.
Babb, John	73, "	No date.
Robson, William	75, St. Clair	August 19, 1883.
Hall, John B	77, Occident	March 25, 1884.
Vance, Wm. Charles.	85, Exeter	May —, 1883.



In Memoriam.

Right Excellent Companion

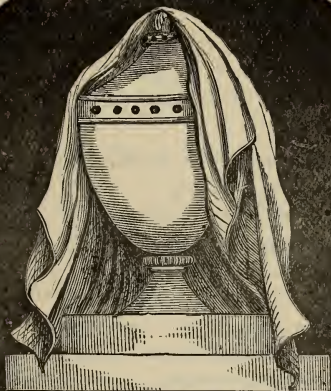
AUGUSTUS T. HOUEL,

Past Grand Principal Sojourner,
Grand Chapter of Canada.

Died 10th December, 1883.

*A man of generous impulses, true to kindred
and the craft.*

AT REST.



In Memoriam.

.....

Very Excellent Companion

STANISLAUS H. BLONDHEIM,

Past Grand Pursuivant, Grand Chapter of Canada.

Died 13th September, 1883.

*"Over the river of death into the silent
Land."*

AT REST.

OFFICERS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER, 1884-85.

M. E. Comp.	H. Macpherson, Owen Sound, Grand Z.		
R. E.	Thos. Sargent, Toronto,	H.	Grand Council.
"	Robert Hendry, Jr. Kingston,	J.	
"	R. B. Hungerford, London,	Gr. Supt.	London District.
"	Chas. L. Beard, Woodstock,	"	Wilson "
"	John Scoon, Guelph,	"	Wellington "
"	John Malloy, Hamilton,	"	Hamilton "
"	D. McG. Malloch, Clinton,	"	Huron "
"	William Forbes, Grimsby,	"	Niagara "
"	John McL. Stevenson, Barrie,	"	Toronto "
"	Duncan Fraser, Peterboro',	"	Ontario "
"	Jas. Walters, Napanee,	"	P. Edward "
"	Edwin Plant, Ottawa,	"	Central "
"	Henry Duffell, St. John's,	"	New Brun. "
"	C. F. Forrest, Winnipeg,	"	Manitoba "
"	David McLellan, Hamilton,	Grand Scribe E.	
"	Otto Klotz, Preston,	"	" N.
"	Richard Radcliffe, Goderich,	"	Principal Sojourner.
"	Edward Mitchell, Hamilton,	"	Treasurer.
"	Wm. Waddington. Jr., Kingston,	"	Registrar.
V. E.	George D. Dickson, Belleville,	"	1st Asst. Sojourner.
"	Jas. D. Christie, St. Catharines,	"	2nd " "
"	Andrew Park, Toronto,	"	Sword Bearer.
"	Wm. G. S. Reynolds, Ottawa.	"	M. of Veils.
"	Peter A. Craig, Windsor,	"	Standard Bearer.
"	James A. Frazer, Milton,	"	Director of Cer.
"	Jas Canfield, Woodstock,	"	Organist.
"	David W. Mayes, Newmarket,	"	Pursuivant.
"	Wm. F. Murray, Clinton,	"	Steward.
"	Charles Hendry, Conestoga,	"	"
"	John Overall, London,	"	"
"	H. B. F. Odell, Oshawa,	"	"
"	W. W. Summers, Hamilton,	"	Janitor.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

PRESIDENT :

R. E. Comp. Thomas Sargent, Grand H., Toronto.

M. E. Comp.	S. Bickerton Harman,	Toronto,	Past Grand Z.
"	" Chas. D. Macdonald,	Peterboro,	" "
"	" Jas. Seymour,	St. Catharines,	" "
"	" L. H. Henderson,	Belleville,	" "
"	" Fred. J. Menet,	Toronto,	" "
"	" Daniel Spry,	Barrie,	" "
"	" Donald Ross,	Picton,	" "
R. E.	" Robert Hendry, Jr.,	Kingston,	Grand J.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS :

R. E. Comp.	R. B. Hungerford,	London,	London District.
"	" Chas. L. Beard,	Woodstock,	Wilson "
"	" John Scoon,	Guelph,	Wellington "
"	" John Malloy,	Hamilton,	Hamilton "
"	" D. Mc. G. Malloch,	Clinton,	Huron "
"	" William Forbes,	Grimsby,	Niagara "
"	" J. McL. Stevenson,	Barrie,	Toronto "
"	" Duncan Fraser,	Peterboro,	Ontario "
"	" Jas. Walters,	Napanee,	Pr. Edward "
"	" Edwin Plant,	Ottawa,	Central "
"	" Henry Duffell,	St. John,	N. Brunsw'k "
"	" C. F. Forrest,	Winnipeg,	Manitoba "

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS.

R. E. Comp.	David McLellan,	Hamilton,	Grand Scribe E.
"	" Otto Klotz,	Preston,	" " N.

ELECTED BY GRAND CHAPTER.

R. E. Comp.	Henry Robertson,	Collingwood.
"	" J. J. Mason,	Hamilton.
"	" J. B. Nixon,	Toronto.
"	" John Ross Robertson,	Toronto.
"	" John Creasor,	Owen Sound.

APPOINTED BY THE GRAND Z.

R. E. Comp.	A. G. Smyth,	London.
"	" T. C. Macnabb	Chatham.
"	" Wm. Gibson,	Beamsville.
"	" Wm. G. Reid,	Hamilton.
E.	" Wm. Smith,	Almonte

REPRESENTATIVES NEAR THE GRAND CHAPTER CANADA FROM FOREIGN GRAND CHAPTERS.

Grand Chapters.		Representatives.	Residences.
Alabama,	R. E. Comp.	Isaac F. Toms,	Goderich.
Arkansas,	" "	John McLaren,	Orangeville.
California,	M. E. "	Henry Macpherson,	Owen Sound.
Colorado,	" "	L. H. Henderson,	Belleville.
Connecticut,	" "	Donald Ross,	Picton.
Delaware,	R. E. "	T. C. Macnabb,	Chatham.
Dist. of Col.,	" "	H. Robertson,	Collingwood.
Florida,	" "	James Moffat,	London.
Georgia,	" "	David McLellan,	Hamilton.
Illinois,	" "	Wm. Forbes,	Grimsby.
Indiana,	M. E. "	James Seymour,	St. Catharines.
Iowa,	" "	" "	" "
Kansas,	R. E. "	J. M. Gibson,	Hamilton.
Kentucky,	" "	Thos. Sargent,	Toronto.
Louisiana,	" "	Edward Mitchell,	Hamilton.
Maine,	" "	D. R. Munro,	St. John, N.B.
Maryland,	" "	J. G. Burns,	Toronto.
Massachusetts,	" "	Jas. A. Henderson,	Kingston.
Minnesota,	M. E. "	Fred. J. Menet,	Toronto.
Mississippi,	R. E. "	Henry Robertson,	Collingwood.
Missouri,	" "	W. J. B. McLeod Moore,	Prescott.
Nebraska,	" "	J. Ross Robertson,	Toronto.
New Hampshire,	" "	David McLellan,	Hamilton.
New Jersey,	M. E. "	Daniel Spry,	Barrie.
Nevada,	R. E. "	J. J. Mason,	Hamilton.
New York,	" "	H. Robertson,	Collingwood.
North Carolina,	" "	Jas. Wilson,	Toronto.
Nova Scotia,	" "	Robt. Hendry, jr.,	Kingston.
Ohio,	V. E. "	H. A. Mackay,	Hamilton.
Oregon,	R. E. "	R. J. Hovenden,	Toronto.
Pennsylvania,	" "	Donald McPhie,	Hamilton.
Quebec,	M. E. "	Daniel Spry,	Barrie.
Rhode Island,	V. E. "	J. B. Traves,	Port Hope.
South Carolina,	M. E. "	C. D. Macdonald,	Peterboro'.
Tennessee,	R. E. "	Wm. Gibson,	Beamsville.
Texas,	" "	R. Brierley,	Hamilton.
Virginia,	" "	Wm. Brydon,	Rat Portage.
Vermont,	" "	Jas. B. Nixon,	Toronto.
West Virginia,	M. E. "	S. B. Harman,	Toronto.
Wisconsin,	R. E. "	Gavin Stewart,	Hamilton.
Scotland,	" "	J. K. Kerr,	Toronto.
Gr. Mark L'ge of Eng. & Wales,	M. E. "	Jas. Seymour,	St. Catharines

REPRESENTATIVES NEAR FOREIGN GRAND CHAPTERS FROM THE GRAND CHAPTER OF CANADA.

Grand Chapters.		Representatives.	Residences.
Alabama,		E. Comp. Jos. H. Johnson,	Talladega.
Arkansas,		" " Geo. L. Kimball,	Dardanelle.
California,	M. " "	" " N. W. Spalding,	Oakland.
Colorado,	" " "	" " Benj. T. Wells,	Black Hawk.
Connecticut,	" " "	" " W. R. Higby,	Bridgeport.
Delaware,	" " "	" " Geo. F. Young,	Wilmington.
Dist. of Columbia,	R. " "	" " J. S. McCoy, M. D.,	Washington.
Florida,	M. " "	" " Robt. J. Perry,	Key West.
Georgia,	" " "	" " W. H. Tuller,	Atlanta.
Illinois,	R. " "	" " Jas. H. Miles,	Chicago.
Indiana,	" " "	" " E. L. McLallen,	Columbia City.
Iowa,	R. " "	" " Jas. W. Wilson,	Newton.
Ireland,	" " "	" " J. H. Neilson,	Dublin.
Kansas,	" " "	" " Francis Menet,	Lawrence.
Kentucky,	M. " "	" " H. R. French,	Mt. Sterling.
Louisiana,	R. " "	" " Andrew Hero, jr.,	Delta.
Maine,	M. " "	" " Andrew J. Fuller,	Bath.
Maryland,	" " "	" " J. M. Carter,	Baltimore.
Massachusetts,	R. " "	" " Edwin Wright,	Boston.
Minnesota,	R. " "	" " Orville G. Miller,	St. Paul.
Mississippi,	M. " "	" " A. H. Barkley,	Crawfordsville.
Missouri,	R. " "	" " M. A. Fyke,	Clinton.
Nebraska,	" " "	" " H. P. Duel,	Omaha.
New Hampshire,	" " "	" " A. Baker,	Lebanon.
New Jersey,	M. " "	" " W. H. McIlhaney,	New York.
Nevada,	R. " "	" " S. W. Chubbuck,	Gold Hill.
New York,	" " "	" " John S. Bowen,	New York.
North Carolina,	" " "	" " Chas. C. Clarke,	New Berne.
Nova Scotia,	" " "	" " L. F. Darling,	Halifax.
Ohio,	R. " "	" " C. A. Woodward,	Cleveland.
Oregon,	" " "	" " Donald Mackay,	Portland.
Pennsylvania,	R. " "	" " Thos. R. Patton,	Philadelphia.
Quebec,	" " "	" " Thos. Milton,	Montreal.
Rhode Island,	" " "	" " W. R. Greene,	Providence.
South Carolina,	" " "	" " J. M. Bratten, M. D.	Charleston.
Tennessee,	" " "	" " Elihu Edmundson,	Pulaski.
Texas,	" " "	" " Henry Scherffius,	Houston.
Virginia,	M. " "	" " Geo. W. Dame,	Danville.
Vermont,	R. " "	" " Wm. Brinsmaid,	Burlington.
West Virginia,	" " "	" " Frank Johnson,	Wheeling.
Wisconsin,	M. " "	" " R. D. Pulford,	Mineral Point.
Scotland,	R. " "	" " The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Kintore.	Carlton Club, London, Eng.
Gr. Mark Lodge of Eng. and Wales, M. " "	" " "	" " Frederick Binckes,	London, Eng.

GRAND CHAPTERS AND ADDRESSES OF GRAND OFFICERS.

GRAND CHAPTERS.	GRAND HIGH PRIEST.	GRAND SECRETARIES.	CHAIRMAN COM. CORRESPONDENCE.
Alabama	Wm. S. Foster, Mobile	Daniel Sayre, Montgomery	Palmer Job. Pillans, Mobile.
Arkansas	George L. Kimball, Dardanelle	James Henry, Little Rock	Robert E. Salle, Camden.
California	Ino. Doan Hines, San Buenaventura	Thos. H. Caswell, San Francisco	T. H. Caswell, San Francisco.
Canada	Henry Macpherson, Owen Sound	David McLellan, Hamilton	Henry Robertson, Collingwood.
Colorado	Edward B. Newman, Boulder	Ed. C. Parmelee, Georgetown	Frank Church, Denver.
Connecticut	Chester Tilden, Willimantic	Jos. K. Wheeler, Hartford	John H. Barlow, Birmingham.
Delaware	John Otto jr, Wilmington	H. B. McIntyre, Wilmington	H. B. McIntyre, Wilmington.
Dist. of Columbia	Burton R. Koss, Washington	Lewis G. Stephens, Washington	Noble D. Larner, Washington.
Florida	George S. Hallmark, Warrington	DeWitt C. Dawkins, Jacksonville	
Georgia	W. A. Graham, Fort Gaines	J. Emmet Blackshear, Macon	
Illinois	Wm. L. Orr, Alton	Gilbert W. Barnard, Chicago	Theodore T. Gurney, Chicago.
Indiana	Robert V. Valzah, Terra Haute	John M. Bramwell, Indianapolis	Thomas B. Long, Terre Haute.
Iowa	Clark Varnum, Malcoln	John C. Parish, Des Moines	Horace S. Winslow, Newton.
Ireland	Hon. Judge Townshend	S. B. Oldham, Dublin	
Kansas	George S. Green, Manhattan	John H. Brown, Wyandotte	John H. Brown, Wyandotte.
Kentucky	R. M. Fairleigh, Hopkinsville	Jos. H. Branham, Louisville	Hiram Bassett, Millersburg.
Louisiana	Alfred Shaw, New Orleans	J. C. Batchelor, M. D., New Orleans	Jos. Potts Hornor, New Orleans.
Maine	Frank E. Sleeper, Sabatis	Ira Berry, Portland	J. H. Drummond, Portland.
Maryland	G. W. Sheive, Baltimore	Geo. L. McCahan, Baltimore	Edward T. Schultz,
Massachusetts	Albert C. Smith, Boston	Zeph H. Thomas, Cambridgeport	Rev. John W. Dadmun, Boston.
Michigan	Theron F. Giddings, Kalamazoo	Wm. P. Innes, Grand Rapids	Wm. P. Innes, Grand Rapids.
Minnesota	W. J. Hahn, Lake City	A. T. C. Pierson, St. Paul	W. J. Hahn, Lake City.
Mississippi		J. L. Power, Jackson	P. M. Savery, Tupelo.
Missouri	A. M. Dockery, Gallatin	Wm. H. Mayo, St. Louis	Wm. H. Mayo, St. Louis.
Nebraska	Wm. H. Munger, Fremont	Wm. R. Bowen, Omaha	E. F. Warren, Nebraska City.
New Hampshire	Alpheus W. Baker, Lebanon	George P. Cleaves, Concord	A. S. Wait, Newport.
New Jersey	Archibald J. Wark, New Brunswick	George B. Edwards, Jersey City	Geo. B. Edwards, Jersey City.

Nevada	Chauncey N. Noteware, Carson ..	John D. Hammond, Carson ..	John D. Hammond, Carson.
New York ..	James E. Morrison, New York ..	Christopher G. Fox, Buffalo ..	Darius A. Ogden,
North Carolina ..	Eugene Grissom, Raleigh ..	Donald W. Bain, Raleigh ..	J. J. Macks, Wilmington.
Nova Scotia ..	James Gossip, Halifax.	George T. Smithers, Halifax ..	George T. Smithers, Halifax.
Ohio	John W. Chamberlin, Tiffin	James Nesbitt, Troy	J. Kelly O'Neil, Lebanon.
Oregon	James F. Robinson, Eugene City ..	R. P. Earhart, Salem	R. P. Earhart, Salem.
Pennsylvania ..	Augustus R. Hall, Philadelphia. ..	Chas. E. Meyer, Philadelphia ..	Andrew Jane, jr.,
Quebec	H. Luke Robinson, Waterloo.	David Seath, Montreal	Arthur F. Simpson, Lennoxville.
Rhode Island ..	Nicholas VanSlyck, Providence ..	Wm. R. Greene, Providence	
South Carolina ..	R. C. Watts, Laurensville	J. E. Burke, Charleston	J. E. Burke, Charleston.
Tennessee	David J. Pierce, Chattenoooga.	John Frizzell, Nashville	
Texas	G. W. Foster, Nelsonville	R. Brewster, Houston	R. Brewster, Houston.
Virginia	W. H. H. Lynn, Staunton	Wm. B. Isaacs, Richmond	Wm. B. Isaacs, Richmond, Va.
Vermont	Kittridge Haskins, Brattleboro	Wm. H. S. Whitcomb, Burlington	Frederick S. Fisher, St. Johnsbury.
West Virginia ..	Gustave Brown, Charleston	O. S. Long Wheeling	O. S. Long, Wheeling.
Wisconsin	Edwin J. Farr, Eau Claire.	John W. Laffin, Milwaukee	Wm. C. Swain, Milwaukee.
Gen. Grand Chap.	Alfred F. Chapman, Boston, Mass.	Christopher G. Fox, Buffalo, N. Y.	
England	H. R. H. Prince of Wales	Col. Shadwell H. Clerk	
Scotland	Rt. Hon. the Earl of Mar & Kellie	Wm. Edwards, Edinburgh	
G. Mark Lodge of Eng. & Wales..	Rt. Hon. Lord Henniker ..	Frederick Binckes	

LIST OF CHAPTERS—BY DISTRICTS.

NO. 1—LONDON DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford, London.

No. 3, St. John's, London	Middlesex	County.
" 5, St. George's, London	"	"
" 15, Wawanosh, Sarnia	Lambton	"
" 47, Wellington, Chatham	Kent	"
" 53, Bruce, Petrolia	Lambton	"
" 54, Palestine, St. Thomas	Elgin	"
" 71, Prince of Wales, Amherstburg	Essex	"
" 73, Erie, Ridgetown,	Kent	"
" 74, Beaver, Strathroy	Middlesex	"
" 78, Minnewawa, Park Hill	"	"
" 80, Ark, Windsor	Essex	"
" 81, Alymer, Alymer	Elgin	"
" 88, Macnabb, Dresden	Kent	"

NO. 2—WILSON DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. C. L. Beard, Woodstock.

No. 18, Oxford, Woodstock	Oxford	County.
" 20, Mount Horeb, Brantford	Brant	"
" 23, Ezra, Simcoe	Norfolk	"
" 41, Harris, Ingersoll	Oxford	"

NO. 3—WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. John Scoon, Guelph.

No. 32, Waterloo, Galt	Waterloo	County.
" 40, Guelph, Guelph	Wellington	"
" 49, Elora, Elora	"	"
" 50, Saugeen, Walkerton	Bruce	"
" 67, Enterprise, Harriston	Wellington	"
" 70, Grand River, Berlin	Waterloo	"
" 83, Ionic, Orangeville	Wellington	"

NO. 4—HAMILTON DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. John Malloy, Hamilton.

No. 2, The Hiram, Hamilton	Wentworth	County
" 6, St. John's Hamilton	"	"
" 75, St. Clair, Milton	Halton	"
" 87, Wentworth, Dundas	Wentworth	"

NO. 5—HURON DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. D. McG. Malloch, Clinton.

No. 24, Tecumseh, Stratford	Perth	County.
" 30, Huron, Goderich	Huron	"
" 46, St. James', St. Mary's	Perth	"
" 63, Havelock, Kincardine	Bruce	"
" 66, Seaforth, Clinton	Huron	"
" 82, Shuniah, Prince Arthur's Landing	Algoma	District.
" 84, Lebanon, Wingham	"	"
" 85, Exeter, Exeter	Huron	"

NO. 6—NIAGARA DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. Wm. Forbes, Grimsby.

No. 19, Mount Moriah, St. Catharines.....	Lincoln	County.
" 29, McCallum, Dunnville.....	Monck	"
" 55, Niagara, Niagara.....	Niagara	"
" 57, King Hiram, Port Colborne.....	Welland	"
" 64, Willson, Welland.....	"	"
" 69, Grimsby, Grimsby.....	Lincoln	"
" 76, Mount Nebo, Niagara Falls South.....	Welland	"

NO. 7—TORONTO DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. J. McL. Stevenson, Barrie.

No. 4, St. Andrew and St. John, Toronto.....	York	County.
" 8, King Solomon's, Toronto.....	"	"
" 27, Manitou, Collingwood.....	Simcoe	"
" 34, Signet, Barrie.....	"	"
" 38, Seymour, Bradford.....	"	"
" 56, Georgian, Owen Sound.....	Grey	"
" 60, Doric, Newmarket.....	York	"
" 62, York, Eglinton.....	"	"
" 65, St. Paul's, Toronto.....	"	"
" 77, Occident, Toronto.....	"	"
" 79, Orient, Toronto.....	"	"
" 86, Macpherson, Meaford.....	Grey	"
" 91, Parkdale, Parkdale.....	York	"

NO. 8—ONTARIO DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. Duncan Fraser, Peterboro.

No. 28, Pentalpha, Oshawa.....	Ontario	County.
" 35, Keystone, Whitby.....	"	"
" 36, Corinthian, Peterboro'.....	Peterboro'	"
" 37, Victoria, Port Hope.....	Durham	"
" 45, Excelsior, Colborne.....	Northumb'd	"
" 48, St. John's, Cobourg.....	"	"

NO. 9—PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. Jas. Walters, Napanee.

No. 7, Moira, Belleville.....	Hastings	County.
" 26, St. Mark's, Trenton.....	"	"
" 31, Prince Edward, Picton.....	Pr. Edward	"
" 44, Mount Sinai, Napanee.....	Lennox	"

NO. 10—CENTRAL DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. Edwin Plant, Ottawa.

No. 1, Ancient Frontenac, Kingston.....	Frontenac	County.
" 12, Cataraqui, Kingston.....	"	"
" 16, Carleton, Ottawa.....	Carleton	"
" 22, Grenville, Prescott.....	Grenville	"
" 58, Pembroke, Pembroke.....	Renfrew	"
" 59, Sussex, Brockville.....	Leeds	"
" 61, Granite, Almonte.....	Lanark	"
" 68, Maitland, Maitland.....	Grenville	"

NO. 11—NEW BRUNSWICK DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. Henry Duffell, St. John.

No. 10, New Brunswick, St. John.....St. John, N. B.

“ 11, St. Mark's, St. Andrew's.....St. Andrew's, N.B.

“ 39, Botsford, Moncton.....Westmoreland “

“ 89, Woodstock, WoodstockCarleton, “

NO. 12—MANITOBA DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. C. F. Forest, Winnipeg.

No. 52, Prince Rupert, Winnipeg.....Manitoba.

“ 90, Golden, Rat Portage.....Keewatin.

1884.

GRAND CHAPTER OF CANADA.

REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE.

HENRY ROBERTSON, CHAIRMAN.

To the Most Excellent Grand Z., and the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence beg to present their Annual Report. The duties assigned to the Committee have been faithfully attended to and the usual review of the proceedings of all the other Grand Chapters which have been received, has been prepared, and is herewith submitted for your consideration.

A list of the proceedings which have been received and the years of their issue will be found at the end of this report. Mention will also be made of those that have not come to hand.

We have endeavored to be as brief as possible, consistently with giving an intelligent synopsis of the most interesting and important matters which have been placed before the Grand Chapters of sister jurisdictions.

THE GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER.

First in importance and dignity of all the bodies we have to notice this year is the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America. This August body meets only once in every three years. The 25th Triennial Convocation was held at the city of Denver, Colorado, on the thirteenth day of August, 1883.

In consequence of the death of the General Grand High Priest, M. E. Comp. R. F. Bower, during his term of office, the Convocation was presided over by the Deputy, Comp. Alfred F. Chapman.

He delivered a very excellent address, recounting his official acts since the death of Comp. Bower in May, 1882. He

metions also the deaths of Comps. A. G. Mackey, J. M. Austin, and others.

Seventeen new Chapters are reported.

Among the decisions, we find the following :—

A petition cannot be withdrawn after being reported on by the Committee on Character.

Dual membership is not allowed in forming a new Chapter.

He made a number of official visitations, and his observation, reports, and information lead him to the conclusion, that in essentials, at least, there is but little variation in the business and ritualistic conduct of the several state jurisdictions, and that they are but the type of the larger jurisdiction of the general Grand Chapter.

In a historical disquisition he shows that the present arrangement of the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent, and the Royal Arch, long antedates the time when Thomas Smith Webb was made a Royal Arch Mason. He was born in 1771, and the records of St. Andrews Chapter in Boston show that in 1769 they worked the degrees of Excellent, Super-Excellent, Royal Arch and Knight Templar. The Mark Degree first appeared in that body in 1793. Webb was exalted in Philadelphia in 1796. In conclusion he says :—"For one hundred and twenty-five years the Royal Arch Degree has found a home upon this continent ; during ninety of these years the business we profess has been practiced as now organized. The 'Grand Royal Arch Chapter,' now the 'General Grand Chapter,' in its first Constitution, adopted January 26th, 1798, named, in inverse order, the four degrees which it again asserted in its last Constitution, adopted August 26th, 1880, and set forth in Section 19 of Article 1."

From the Report of the General Grand Secretary, we learn that the new Chapters were located as follows :—Three in Arizona, eight in Dakota, two in New Mexico, two in Utah, and two in Washington Territory.

The standing resolution on what constitutes a quorum was amended so as to read as follows : "That there must be present nine Royal Arch Masons to open any of the bodies under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter ; but that eight may work as a lodge of Mark Masters, seven as a lodge of Past Masters, and seven as a lodge of Most Excellent Masters."

A very large amount of business was transacted.

The conclusions and recommendations of the Committee on Jurisprudence were all adopted. They report that a certain clause in the Constitution was intended to make all Past High

Priests members of their respective State Grand Chapters only when permitted by their respective Grand Chapter constitutions.

Also, that in case of the death of the General Grand High Priest, the Deputy succeeds to the duties but not the title; and then, in case of the death of the Deputy, the General Grand King succeeds to the duties but not the title, and so on.

Also, that a Grand Chapter has the right to limit the qualifications of candidates for the office of High Priest.

Also, that the Grand High Priest cannot annul the ordinary force of a law of the Grand Chapter, unless the regulations of the latter invest him with the necessary discretionary power.

And also, that before a charter is issued to any Chapter, each Companion named in said charter shall present a dimit from the Chapter of which he was previously a member.

A commission was appointed to compile and digest their various decisions and opinions upon Capitular law, to be published and distributed under the direction of the General Grand Council.

On relative membership, it was moved by Comp. Bowen, of Nebraska, "That membership in a Chapter should be dependent upon and co-existent with membership in a lodge of Freemasons." After several amendments, a motion to postpone, and a motion to refer to a special committee, the whole subject was laid on the table on a call of the yeas and nays, by a vote of 40 to 36. This was a narrow escape, but we are glad that the majority had the good sense to refuse to adopt so arbitrary a rule.

The following officers were elected :—

Alfred F. Chapman, Boston, Mass.,	G. G. H. P.
Noble D. Larner, Washington, D. C.,	D. G. G. H. P.
David F. Day, Buffalo, N. Y.,	G. G. K.
Joseph P. Hornor, New Orleans, La.,	G. G. S.
Reuben C. Lemmon, Toledo, O.,	G. G. Tr.
Christopher G. Fox, Buffalo, N. Y.,	G. G. Sec'y.
Thomas McF. Patton, Portland, Ogn.,	G. G. C. H.
Benjamin F. Haller, Memphis, Tenn.,	G. G. P. S.
Roger W. Woodbury, Denver, Col.,	G. G. R. A. C.
William H. Mayo, St. Louis, Mo.,	G. G. M. 3. V.
Lansing Burrows, Lexington, Ky.,	G. G. M. 2. V.
John J. Sumpter, Hot Springs, Ark.,	G. G. M. 1. V.

The next Triennial Convocation will be held at the City of Washington, D.C., on Tuesday, September 28th 1886. We hope to be there.

ALABAMA.

The 57th Convocation was held at Montgomery, December 4th, 1883.

M. E. Comp. L. W. Jenkins, G. H. P.

According to his address, the outlook is not very promising, but we trust there may soon come a time when prosperity will return, and peace and plenty gladden the hearts of our Companions in Alabama. We copy the following :—

“ A portion of our jurisdiction has been visited by that terrible scourge, yellow fever, and much distress caused in that section. Many of our valuable companions fell victims. The sympathy of the neighboring towns as expressed by their liberal donations, obviated the necessity of my calling, as Grand Officer of the State, on the Subordinate Chapters for relief.

For the past year we have to record an unprecedented Summer drouth, which has smitten the products of our fields, and destroyed the high hopes of our husbandmen for an abundant harvest, therefore we may not expect any great increase in the roll of our membership for some time to come. I can not believe that the depression of the times, the falling away of our membership, and the decrease of the number of Chapters, can be attributed to bad material wrought into the walls of our masonic structure ; nor to a want of interest in Masonry. But I attribute all these things to relentless poverty. The return of prosperity will bring new life to our Order and restore many dormant Chapters to their former flourishing condition. But long continued poverty and accumulated dues of many worthy members, will prevent their return to active membership without some legislation in their behalf by their Chapters. I therefore respectfully recommend to the consideration of Subordinate Chapters the advisability of remitting a part, or such part of their accumulated dues as will restore them to active membership—thus exercising one of the cardinal principles of our Order—this, in my opinion, would greatly revive the spirit of Capitular Masonry in this jurisdiction.

From official visitations which have been of limited extent, and intercourse with companions, I am enabled to state that the prospects of the Order in this jurisdiction, in some instances, are encouraging. Several Chapters whose charters were forfeited have been restored, and their members have gone to work with commendable zeal. The Chapters I have visited appear to be in a flourishing condition—the officers manifesting great interest in perfecting themselves in the work and lectures. I take this occasion to thank those officers for the courtesy and kindness extended me on those occasions.”

He decided that a Chapter cannot call off from one Convocation to another. Also that it is not lawful to confer the degrees upon a minister of the Gospel free of charge.

The Committee on Work reported on all the degrees.

The Quebec circular was referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, of which Comp. P. J. Pillans is Chairman.

In his notice of the Grand Mark Lodge of England, we find the following :—

“At the latter we find reported a warrant for a new Lodge at Montreal, to be styled Henniker and numbered 314. As much as we wish the extension and growth of all true Masonic bodies, yet we greatly regret to see this invasion of the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Quebec. As the place Montreal is given without the affix, can we still hope that it is not among our Canadian brethren that it has been established. The American doctrine of exclusive jurisdiction we thought was too fully established to allow of any such interference. but upon looking through the registry we find under the head of Quebec, as constituted in 1883, a Provincial Grand Lodge with R. W. Bro. Wm. Badgley, of Montreal, as Provincial G. M. Lieut. Col. W. H. Hutton, D. G. M., and J. O. Mathews, Grand Secretary, thus displaying a settled purpose on the part of this G. M. Lodge to invade the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Quebec. We hope for the sake of harmony that some reasonable explanation of the purposes of the M. W. G. M. Lodge consonant with its dignity and that of the Grand Chapter of Quebec may be made before the next Annual Convocation of this our Grand Chapter. It can, we presume, hardly be expected that we will idly notice this infraction of the right of a sister jurisdiction and not prepare to defend ourselves from a like proceeding, for if this may be done in Quebec without protest, why may not the same be done in Alabama. We await with no little curiosity and apprehension the outcome of this apparent daring enterprise.”

Canada for 1883 receives due notice. He notices that the average attendance of one of our Chapters, as reported by the District Superintendent, was nine, and wants to know how we get along at any time with less than that number. That average was probably obtained by counting the number of Companions present at some meetings at which there was no quorum, as no Chapter can be opened with less than nine present.

M. E. Comp. William S. Forster, (Mobile) G.H.P.; R. E. Comp. Daniel Sayre, (Montgomery) G.S.

ARKANSAS.

The thirty-fourth Annual Convocation was held at Little Rock, November 29th, 1883.

M. E. Comp John J. Sumpter, G. H. P.

They have a renowned sanitarium at Hot Springs, in that state, and the Grand High Priest advocates the establishment there of a “World’s Masonic Hospital.” On this subject, he says :—

“If you, my beloved Companions, were as familiar as I am with the pitiable condition of the multitude of poor, crippled, diseased paupers who annually seek the healing waters of Hot Springs; who, animated with the one and only eager desire for restored health, come without money, without clothing, without anything but their poor diseased bodies, from almost every quarter of the globe, and cast themselves upon the charity of an over-taxed and overburdened community; how they lie by night and day on the sides of the hills, exposed to all the vicissitudes of weather—naked, hungry, dying—your hearts like mine would be filled with ineffable pity, and you

would make their hapless cause one of the chief considerations of this Grand Convocation of Royal Arch Masons, whose highest aspirations and noblest endeavors should be to alleviate the sufferings of mankind. I speak not in terms of undue exaggeration when I say that the establishment of a great charity hospital at Hot Springs is a matter of national concern, of much more importance than many objects that are now engaging the anxious attention of the American people. This is a want which is universally felt by all who are in any manner acquainted with the necessity and circumstances of the case, but the great practical question with us has been, and is now, what is the best method to adopt to attain the desired object. Various suggestions have been made, but none that strike me more favorably than that hinted at by our Most Excellent Past Grand High Priest. It is not to be expected that an institution of this kind, of sufficient magnitude to meet the necessities of the case, should be built and maintained by organized bodies of Masonry alone; but I do believe that if the project was taken in hand and patronized by our Masonic bodies, and through them an appeal made to the people of the nation, the guarantee of good faith and commendable purpose thus afforded would soon bring in sufficient funds to build and maintain an institution that would be an honor to our nation and a perpetual monument to the glory of Masonry."

On motion, the matters in difference between the Grand Mark Lodge of England and the Grand Chapter of Quebec, were referred back to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, with instructions to report at the next Annual Meeting.

The Report on Correspondence is by Comp. Robt. E. Salle, and concludes as follows:—

"What seems to be the most vexatious, and generally discussed question, is the old and long-standing one about the right of Chapters to suspend their members for the non-payment of dues.

The writer thought he had traced, several years ago, to its source the error into which, what may be called '*the lenients*,' have fallen in this regard; namely, the loose and ill-considered conclusions (rare, if not singular) reached by Companion Albert G. Mackey while compiling his admirable and almost invaluable work on '*Jurisprudence of Freemasonry*,' where he lays down the doctrine of the inability of Masonic Bodies to compel memberships and enforce payment of dues, on the ground that we are *free*, and hence, in this particular, are allowed to do as we please. Several years ago the writer was the Master of the Lodge at Camden, and, in trying to bring up some of our recalcitrant brethren '*to the snorting pole*,' this very question was brought up and stared the paying members in the face.

The Worshipful Master decided that it was true that all Masons are *free* up to the time of first entering the door of the Temple, but that after that time they owed, not only to their brethren, but to the Lodge also, certain duties, which they were *under bond* to perform; and among those they owed to the Lodge was that of paying dues. This was the writer's opinion at that time, and he has not seen anything since to change it."

M. E. Comp George L. Kimball, (Dardanelle) G.H.P.;
R. E. Comp. James A. Henry, (Little Rock) G. S.

CALIFORNIA.

The 30th Convocation was held at San Francisco, April 8th, 1884.

M. E. Comp. Leonidas E. Pratt, G.H.P.

He is sound and sensible on the too frequent ostentatious parades indulged in by Masons who love display, but who do not recognize the wholesome truth, that Masons should not appear in public as such except on very special and important occasions. Making ourselves too common certainly detracts from, rather than adds to the dignity of the institution.

"On the twenty-fourth day of August last, contrary to my own taste and judgment, but yielding to the advice and solicitation of those who had preceded me in this chair, and to whose wisdom and opinions I felt bound to defer, I convened the Grand Chapter for the purpose of acting in conjunction with the Grand Commandery as an escort to the Grand Lodge at the ceremony of laying the corner-stone of the Garfield Monument in Golden Gate Park in this city. Having said that this special convocation was adverse to my own thought, I ought, perhaps, to assign some reasons why it was so. They are few, simple, and will be readily comprehended by all of you, although they may not be shared or concurred in by any of you. First, we are coming rapidly to make too much display and parade of our Masonic standing and handsome apparel. We are gradually drifting away from that simplicity and those practical features of Freemasonry which in our early experience so charmed and delighted us. We compromise our faith and our teachings and we belittle our profession by too much Masonic display and too little Masonic labor. Not but that it was a very proper piece of Masonic work for the Grand Lodge to lay the corner-stone of that monument; but I am weary of seeing that body, which is our supreme head and front, and to which we all owe our highest loyalty and allegiance, dwarfed and overshadowed on such occasions by the ostentation, gilt, and tinsel of what *profanes*, because they know no better, are pleased to call the *higher* degrees. Our sovereign—the Grand Lodge—is sunk and lost sight of. The impression left upon the mind of the thoughtful and considerate profane, the very class to whom we should commend ourselves, is anything but favorable. They come to look upon us as more given to fuss and feathers, to vanity, ostentation and display, than to the practical work which we profess. Moreover, on such occasions, in theory at least, we are there to do the practical work of operative Masons. We are there ostensibly to handle bricks and stones and mortar, and to wield the implements of the craft in the actual work of building.

Now, what sort of a figure would a Knight Templar cut, burdened with his costly and cumbersome clothing and accoutrements, carrying the hod or wielding the dressing hammer? What sort of a figure would the Grand High Priest cut, in his robes and paraphernalia and breast-plate and mitre, spreading mortar and adjusting bricks and stones in the projected edifice? It is ridiculous—it is farcical! If I were to have my own way about it (which I am quite confident I never shall have), on such occasions every person in the procession should go clad in the simple badge of a Master Mason—the plain lamb-skin apron—as if he were ready *practically* for the work which in *theory* he is there to perform. The theory and practice should, to that extent at least, be made to harmonize.

It is true, as some of you may perhaps respond, that during my own

Grand Mastership of four years, such occasions were numerous and important, and there was then the same ostentation and display as on the late occasion. But then, as at the late demonstration, it was permitted as a kind of compliance to a long established custom and practice, and in deference to the opinions and advice of my seniors in Masonic lore, and not because my own judgment approved it. My own views were then just what they are now. I solemnly avow that if I were Grand Master again, I would clear the garden of all these weeds and brambles. As it is, I can only fire this futile shot. Nobody will be hurt by it, and the Masonic fraternity will be just as comfortable as if I had kept my lips sealed. The grasses will still spring to adorn the rugged face of Mother Earth; the flowers will still exhale their fragrance. Suns will still rise and set, moons will wax and wane, and tides will ebb and flow, and the Grand Chapter and Grand Commandery will still avail themselves of every possible opportunity for a public exhibition of their elegant dress and Masonic standing. Selah !”

The Grand Secretary reports on Correspondence and notices Canada for 1883.

Comp. James L. English presented the following, as a General Regulation, which was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence :—

“ This Grand Chapter acknowledges no degree of Masonry or order of Knighthood to be legitimate and genuine except those conferred by or under the authority of the following regularly constituted Masonic bodies of the United States of America, and those of corresponding rank in foreign countries, to wit : the Grand Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons of the several States and Territories ; the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States, and the Grand Chapters of Royal Arch Masons of the States and Territories ; the General Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the United States and the Grand Councils of Royal and Select Masters of the States and Territories ; the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States, and the Grand Commanderies of the several States and Territories ; the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, for the southern jurisdiction of the United States, of which Albert Pike is Grand Commander ; and the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the northern jurisdiction of the United States, of which Henry L. Palmer is Grand Commander.

It is hereby declared that any Royal Arch Mason who shall hereafter take or receive any so-called Masonic degree or order of Knighthood from any man or body of men not hereinbefore acknowledged to be legitimate and genuine, shall be liable to be expelled from all the rights and privileges of a Royal Arch Mason.

It is hereby further declared that any Royal Arch Mason who shall hereafter confer, communicate or sell, or be present at or assist in the conferring, communicating, or selling, or solicit anyone to take, receive, or apply for, any so-called Masonic degree or order of Knighthood in any assemblage of men, no matter by what name soever it may be called, except it be held under the authority of one of the bodies hereinbefore acknowledged to be legitimate and genuine, shall be expelled from all the rights and privileges of a Royal Arch Mason.”

The Committee on Jurisprudence presented the following report, which was adopted :—

“Your Committee on Jurisprudence have given consideration to the standing regulations proposed by Companion Past Grand High Priest James Lawrence English, defining the Masonic powers in existence whose regularity and standing, being acknowledged by the Masonic world, should be affirmed by this Grand Chapter for the protection of legally and regularly organized Masonic bodies, and especially for the continuance of the harmony necessary for the prosperity of the bodies of Royal Arch Masons of our obedience.

All well informed Masons are aware that the list of bodies enumerated by Comp. English, embody the legitimate Masonry of the world. We have not the time at our disposal, and do not propose to enter into an analysis of the disputes of Masonic powers of years gone by. It is enough for your committee to know that for a quarter of a century the organizations named in the proposed regulations have constituted the Masonic world, and comprise the whole of legitimate Masonry ; and for the reason that we desire this Grand Chapter to speak in no uncertain tones when organization and order are in question, and that all who seek information as to pretended orders may have a reliable record at hand to furnish it, we recommend the adoption of the regulations herein referred to, and that they constitute, as a whole, General Regulation No. 21.”

The rest of the business transacted was of local interest only.

M. E. Comp. J. D. Hines, (San Buenaventura) G.H.P.;
R. E. Comp. T. H. Caswell, (San Francisco) G.S.

COLORADO.

The ninth Convocation was held at Denver, Sept. 20th, 1883.

M. E. Comp. Roger W. Woodbury, G. H. P.

The Fraternity throughout the state is in a flourishing condition.

Four new Chapters were formed during the year.

The Grand High Priest declined a request to suspend the By-laws of a Chapter to enable it to take action on a petition on the evening of its reception. In answer to a request for instructions relative to visitation by a Royal Arch Mason from a foreign country, who had never received the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, and Most Excellent Master, he replied that those degrees should be regularly conferred on the visitor without charge.

On the subject of maimed candidates, he says :—

“I have been asked to define to this Grand Chapter my opinion upon the resolution relating to one-armed Masons. At the late triennial session of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, General Grand High Priest Chapman advocated great liberality in passing upon applications for advancement from maimed Master Masons, and his views were unanimously endorsed by the General Grand Chapter. It has been thought wise by this Grand Chapter to erect a permanent bar to the advancement of a Mason with one arm. The loss of a leg or a hand or a foot appears not to have been considered. The resolution, if considered as establishing a rule for

the government of constituent Chapters in their relations with maimed applicants, fails to answer the purpose, as it relates to but one of the many maims which the human frame may suffer. The Chapter may reject the applicant who has lost an arm, and accept his brother with one leg, and do it on the ground that the Grand Chapter has specified what constitutes a maim sufficient for rejection, and said nothing against applicants with but one leg. It would be a nice matter to specify literally all that should constitute a maim to advancement; and then again, that which should by all means be a bar to initiation need not necessarily prevent advancement. The Mason that is every way qualified except by an unfortunate physical casualty is entitled to some consideration. The man that is uninitiated is not. Royal Arch Masonry can no more be injured by receiving such a man, possibly an ornament to the Lodge and to society, than it can be if a *Companion* suffers a like misfortune after receiving the degrees. In short, I conceive of no arbitrary inflexible rule that should apply, but that it would be a sufficient protection, and more uniformly satisfactory, if the Grand High Priest had these questions at his own disposal."

On motion of S. H. Bowman, the following, adopted in 1876, was revealed:—

"*Resolved*, That it is the sense of this Grand Chapter that it is not lawful to confer the Chapter Degrees upon a one-armed Mason."

The resolution adopted in 1879 was, on motion of W. D. Todd, amended so as to read as follows:—

"*Resolved*, That Royal Arch Masons, to be in good standing in this Grand Jurisdiction, must be and continue to be in good standing as Master Masons, and the Subordinate Chapters of this Jurisdiction will govern themselves accordingly."

The following report was adopted, and the proposed addition to the constitution was adopted by the necessary three-fourths vote:—

"Your Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the decisions made by M. E. G. H. P., beg leave to report that they have had the same under consideration and recommend that this Grand Chapter confirm his decision on the Standing Resolution of 1879, page 14.

And in relation to the duties and prerogative of the M. E. G. H. P., referred to your Committee at our last annual convocation, we beg leave to report that in addition to those already granted he be empowered to convene emergent convocations of the G. R. A. C. of Colorado, also to convene any Subordinate Chapter under the immediate jurisdiction of the G. C.; to preside therein; to inspect its proceedings and require conformity to Masonic law, usage and custom; to require the attendance of, and information from, any Grand or Subordinate officer respecting his office, and, when in his opinion it is proper so to do, to suspend such officer and appoint a suitable person in his stead until the next annual convocation of the Grand or Subordinate Chapter and report his action to the next Grand Convocation of this Grand Chapter; to appoint such Grand Officers as may be necessary to fill vacancies; and to perform such other duties and exercise such other powers and prerogatives as properly pertain to the position, not inconsistent with the provisions of the Constitution of this Grand Chapter."

Comp. E. L. N. Foster reports on correspondence and notices Canada for 1882.

M. E. Comp. Edward B. Newnam, (Boulder) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Ed. C. Parmelee, (Georgetown) G. S.

CONNECTICUT.

The 86th convocation was held at Hartford, May 13th, 1884.

The Grand High Priest, Comp. John S. Castle, reports harmony and prosperity prevailing throughout the state. Nothing of importance has arisen to occupy the attention of the officers, except the regular routine duties and friendly visits, which are always a pleasure rather than a burden. Two of his decisions are as follows :—

“Is not a committee of the whole, unmasonic, and any attempted business in such committee void ?

Answer. Yes.

Can a masonic body form and adopt a code of by laws and thereby establish or change the time of their annual meeting ?

Answer. Yes.”

Comp. John H. Barlow offered the following resolution regarding the invasion of Quebec by the Grand Mark Lodge of England, and it was adopted by the Grand Chapter :—

“*Resolved*, That this Grand Chapter recognizes the M. E., Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Quebec, as the only lawful and legitimate authority or power, from which charters or warrants for chapters to confer the degree of Mark Master Masons may be issued, and in our judgment, Mark Master Masons advanced in such lodges, should alone be recognized, as having received said degree in a regular lodge, lawfully constituted.”

Their practice as to affiliation is now regulation as stated in this resolution :—

“*Resolved*, That when any companion Royal Arch Mason wishes to dissolve his connection with the chapter of which he is a member, and affiliate with another, he may be permitted to apply for affiliation before taking a dimit, but membership shall not take effect until he has deposited his dimit with the chapter to which he may apply.”

It was also resolved that at all future convocations of the Grand Chapter, the roll shall be called immediately after the installations of officers, and all chapters not represented shall be considered delinquent. We presume that this is intended to prevent the “scatteration” which usually takes place as soon as the principal business is over.

The charter of Lafayette Chapter, No. 20, was revoked for having utterly and persistently ignored the orders of the Grand Chapter.

The report on Correspondence is by Comp. John H. Barlow. Our proceedings of 1883 receive favorable mention. He notices that thirteen out of eighteen of our Grand officers were conspicuous by their absence, a fact that is not at all to our credit.

He suggests that it might be better to inculcate a careful

and judicious use of the power of granting dispensations, rather than to attempt to modernize Masonry by legislating upon it.

He thinks that lodge non-affiliates should not be permitted to join the Chapter, as "they add no permanent strength to the Royal Craft and that the columns of our mystic temple would be far more enduring if such stones are left out." It seems to us that every good man who joins a Chapter makes it just so much the stronger, whether he pays dues to a lodge or not.

In his notice of Indiana he says :—

"We would ask Companion Charles how ancient are the prerogatives even of the Grand Master. That the day and date cannot be given, we think furnish strong evidence of their being ancient. We do not claim for the Grand High Priest that doubtful prerogative of making Royal Arch Masons at sight, but we do claim his rightful prerogative of ruling and governing the Grand Chapter according to his installing covenant, without being crippled by parliamentary rules or constitutional enactments."

M. E. Comp. Chester Tilden, (Willimantic) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Joseph K. Wheeler, (Hartford) G. S.

DELAWARE.

The 15th convocation was held at Wilmington, January 16th, 1884.

M. E. Comp. Thomas Davidson, G. H. P.

Four Chapters were represented, out of six.

The Grand High Priest rendered no decisions, as no formal questions had been presented to him. On the condition of the Chapters, he says :—

"I wish I could give as encouraging a report of the Chapters outside of the city, but such is not the case. I have been unable to visit any of the Chapters outside of Wilmington. None of them, so far as I have been able to learn have held a Convocation during the past year, but I believe were it not for the regulation of the General Grand Chapter requiring nine members to be present to conduct business, I would have been able to report visits to at least two of the other Chapters, and reported them in fair working order ; but owing to the small number of members and their residing so far from the place of meeting, it is an impossibility to get nine together to receive and act upon petitions of those who were anxious to be advanced. I know that this latter will be severely criticised by those who do not understand the true condition of affairs in this jurisdiction, and we will be told that a Chapter that cannot get nine of its members together ought to die, but I think the Companions of this Grand Chapter will bear me out in what I say, but as the regulation exists, we will obey. I would recommend that the regulation adopted at the last Annual Convocation, requiring subordinate Chapters to meet at least four times in a year be promptly enforced, for in my judgment it will be easier for the Companions if they have any interest left in Royal Arch Masonry to unite and form a new Chapter than to get nine of any one Chapter together."

The documents relating to Quebec and England were referred to a special committee to report next year.

The constitution was amended to provide that a Chapter shall not confer the degrees upon a candidate who resides in another state, without the consent of the Chapter within whose jurisdiction he resides.

The Grand Secretary reports on correspondence, and notices our Proceedings for 1883.

M. E. Comp. John Otto, jr., (Wilmington) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. H. B. McIntyre, (Wilmington) G. S.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

At a semi-annual convocation held on June 13th, 1883, an amendment to the constitution was adopted providing that any Companion suspended from his Lodge for non-payment of dues or for any other cause, shall be suspended from his Chapter during such Lodge suspension.

It was also resolved to ask the co-operation of the Grand Lodge in carrying out the object of this amendment.

The 17th Convocation was held at Washington, December 12th, 1883.

M. E. Comp. J. C. Allen, G. H. P.

He congratulates the Grand Chapter on the general prosperity and universal good feeling existing among the Craft in his jurisdiction. He made the usual Grand visitations, and was gratified at the great interest manifested and the accuracy and neatness of the records.

On old records and correspondence he says :—

“At the annual convocation in 1882, M. E. Companion M. Trimble, P. G. H. P., read a communication from Companion James W. Staton, of Brooksville, Ky., relative to printing the records of ‘A Grand Encampment of Royal Arch Masons of the District of Columbia,’ from the year 1822 to 1833, and moved that the matter be referred to the Grand Council, with authority to take such action as they may deem advisable, which motion was adopted ; and I now have to report that the Grand Council, after consultation, concluded to and did send said records to Comp. Staton, through Comp. Shekell, Secretary of Potomac Chapter, No. 8, for the purpose indicated, and on the condition that this Grand Chapter was to be put to no expense in the matter. A receipt for the records is now in the possession of our Grand Secretary.

I cannot close my address without inviting the attention of this Grand Chapter to our annual reports on foreign correspondence.

I doubt not that every Companion who has been accustomed to read those reports has some faint idea of the amount of labor and careful study required of the Correspondence Committee in compiling that work. The Correspondence Committee is, of course, always composed of three able Companions ; yet it is a fact known to the most of you that the greater portion of the work, if not all of it, is done by the Chairman.

Ever since the formation of this Grand Chapter all the mental and manual labor required to produce that great work has been furnished gratuitously.

Whilst we were in our infancy, and even in our youth, it was not unreasonable to expect every Companion to accept any position assigned them, and to labor cheerfully, faithfully, honestly and hard to promote the interest of this Grand Chapter, and that, too, without the hope of fee or reward ; but now that we are fairly on our feet, and feel ourselves firmly and securely established, with a revenue sufficient to warrant us in rewarding faithful services, I am of the opinion that it is asking too much of any Companion to perform such a vast amount of labor as is required to get out those reports for nought ; and I do, therefore, recommend that this Grand Chapter make provision for the payment of at least fifty dollars annually to the Chairman of the Correspondence Committee for his services, and that the present Chairman who has filled that position so ably for the past seven years, be allowed \$50 for his services during the year just closed."

The following is the report of the Committee on Work :

"Your Committee on Work have to report that the same commendable zeal and interest in the proper rendition of the prescribed ritual which has been so eminently shown in former years still continues. The officers of the several Chapters have felt a degree of pride in performing their work in such a manner as to reflect credit on themselves and on their Chapters ; and it is safe to say that few of our sister jurisdictions equal, and none excel, our own, in the correctness and uniformity of the work. This may be attributed in some degree to the constant presence of our Grand Visitor and Lecturer, to whose indefatigable labors much of our success is due, and who is entitled to our sincere thanks.

It is very gratifying to be able to report that, as in years past, no points of difference between High Priests of Chapters and the Grand Lecturer have been brought to the notice of your Committee ; hence, no sessions for the determination of appeals thereon have been held.

Your Committee, believing it to be a matter within their jurisdiction, desire to call attention to that portion of the address of the M. E. Grand High Priest at the last Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter, in reference to the abridgment of the forms and ceremonies used in opening and closing a Chapter. He there stated that, a question on the subject having arisen, he replied ; ' That he knew of no form other than that prescribed by the Grand Chapter, and any other used would not be in accordance with the work of the Grand Chapter, and, therefore, irregular.' This decision was confirmed by the Grand Chapter at the same Convocation, and, being now the law of this jurisdiction, should be strictly observed by the presiding officers of the constituent Chapters.

The question of the misunderstanding between the Grand Chapter of Quebec and the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, referred to in the address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, coming up for consideration.

Comp. Joseph S. McCoy, Grand Representative of the above-named Grand Bodies, stated that, while the position taken by Quebec seemed just and proper, still England should be heard prior to action by the Grand Chapter, and to that end suggested that the further consideration of the subject be deferred to the Semi-Annual Convocation.

Comp. I. L. Johnson offered the following, which was adopted :

"The M. E. G. H. P., in his address, having called the attention of this Grand Chapter to an alleged invasion of the jurisdiction of the Grand Chap-

ter of Quebec by the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, &c., by establishing within the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Quebec Lodges of Mark Master Masons, in violation of well recognized Masonic usage and comity, therefore—

Resolved,—That the communication of the Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter of Quebec to the M. E. G. H. P., and the papers accompanying said communication, be referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, to report at the Semi-Annual Convocation the facts in relation to said alleged violation of Masonic jurisdiction, and to recommend to this Grand Chapter such action as the nature of the case may require.

The amendments to the Constitution offered by Comp. Wm. R. Bushby at the Semi-Annual Convocation, coming up as unfinished business, the amendment to section 5, article 5, was amended to read as follows :

“SEC. 5. No Chapter shall expel a member for non-payment of dues ; but by a vote of the Chapter he may be suspended from all the rights and privileges of the Chapter, but shall be reinstated on payment of all arrearages, if paid within two years from the time he was suspended ; if not, he shall be reinstated only on application in writing, and by a majority vote. Said application shall be referred to a committee for a report thereon as in an application for affiliation.”

AMENDMENT PROPOSED.

Comp. N. D. Larner moved to amend the Constitution by striking out sec. 15, art. 5, and insert the following :

“When a Brother has been elected to receive the degrees and an objection is entered against him, said objection shall be held to have the same effect as if a black ball had been cast against him, unless said objection shall be withdrawn ; and if, after one or more of the degrees shall have been conferred upon him and an objection shall be entered against his further advancement, such objection shall be referred to a committee with power to enquire into the cause thereof, who shall at the next stated meeting (unless further time be given) report thereon ; and upon the reception of such report, if no cause for the objection has been assigned, or if the cause assigned be in the opinion of two thirds of the members present not a valid and Masonic one, the Chapter may confer the degrees in the same manner as if no objection had been made.”

The Grand Lodge is hereafter to furnish the Grand Chapter with a copy of their Proceedings as soon as published, so that the Grand Chapter may be informed of the suspensions.

A copy of “Robertson’s Canadian Digest of Masonic Jurisprudence” was received from the author, and the thanks of the Grand Chapter voted to him therefor.

We are very much pleased to notice the elevation of our friend, Burton R. Ross, to the exalted office of Grand High Priest. Comp. Ross is pleasantly remembered by many friends in Canada, as the leader of the “Pirate Club” of Lafayette Chapter, who visited our Grand Chapter at Kingston in 1873. We are confident that he will fill his proud position with credit to himself and honor to the Grand Chapter over which he presides.

The following resolutions were adopted :—

Resolved, That the death of Past Grand High Priest George B. Clark, be referred to a committee of three, to draw up a suitable memorial, which is to be furnished to the M. E. Grand High Priest, to be published in the proceedings of this Convocation.

Resolved, That a committee of nine Companions be appointed, to be styled the Triennial Committee, to whom shall be entrusted the duty of making all necessary arrangements for the reception and entertainment of the members of the General Grand Chapter on the occasion of its 26th Triennial Convocation, which is to be held in the city of Washington on the fourth Tuesday in September, 1886.

Resolved, That the chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence be allowed the sum of fifty dollars for his services in the preparation of his report for this year.

Resolved, That hereafter the sum of fifty dollars shall be paid to the chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence for his services each year."

Comp. Noble D. Larner again reports on Correspondence, and notices Canada for 1883. He has changed his mind on the "objection" question, and now thinks as we do. 'Tis well.

M. E. Comp. Burton R. Ross, (No. 1111 H. Street, Northwest, Washington) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. L. G. Stephens, (Masonic Temple, Washington) G. S.

GEORGIA.

The 62nd Convocation was held at Macon, April 30th, 1884.

M. E. Comp. Charles E. Lambdin, G. H. P., reports that several old Chapters have been re-organized, and are now doing good work. He also says :—

"I beg to call your attention to the action of the Grand Lodge of M. M. M., of England and Wales, in establishing Lodges of M. M. M., within the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, with which we are in friendly relations, and which is represented near this Grand Chapter by Companion Blackshear. I submit for your inspection and consideration the manly letters and protests of Most Excellent Jno. H. Graham, P. G. Z., and Grand Representative of Grand Lodge of M. M. M., of England and Wales, near the Grand Chapter of Quebec, and also the letters and proclamations of Most Excellent H. L. Robinson, G. Z., of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, together with the replies to same.

In my opinion, the action of the Grand Lodge of M. M. M., of England and Wales, has been so uncharitable and unmasonic as to authorize and demand that every Grand Chapter shall at once declare non-fellowship and non-intercourse with her and her members; for the same plea that she makes for establishing lodges of M. M. M., in Quebec, would authorize her to establish them in Savannah, whenever a member of English M. M. Masons might apply for a charter. I therefore earnestly insist that we shall preserve our dignity by uniting with our aggrieved sister, the Grand Chap-

ter of Quebec, and declare non-intercourse with said Grand Lodge of M. M., and all lodges established by her, within the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, to be illegal, and their members irregular and clandestine.

And now, Companions, a few words of advice: Your Chapters need your united efforts; you can make them mighty levers for the advancement of your friends and neighbors in virtue and morality. You have the destinies of the Chapters of Georgia in your hands, for you have them under your control; quite a number of you have presided over their destinies for years; you have the confidence of your Companions, and it is yours to direct as well as to govern them. Have you considered the weighty responsibility of your position? Has your Chapter flourished during your administration? then study the causes which have produced this success, and continue to improve your Chapters. Has your Chapter continually retrograded, both in numbers and in interest? then see to it that the cause is not in yourself; or, if it is, that your Chapter shall no longer be impeded by you. Get out of the way, and let some faithful, earnest Companion assume the leadership. Every Chapter in Georgia needs its best men to the front, men of strong individuality, of determined purpose, and of spotless integrity. Such men will restore life and give impetus to our Chapters. I ask you, then, as friends of Capitular Masonry, to make a vigorous effort to bring such men to the front, by retiring all the drones, who have heretofore held the offices, and by supplying their places with men, good and true and tried. One of the grandest kings that ever ruled France, was wont to say, '*C'est moi*' (I am the State). Every High Priest is, in a great degree, the Chapter over which he presides. It is his to impress as he will."

The following report of the Committee on Jurisprudence was adopted:—

"We have had referred to us for consideration a resolution of Companion Pollard, admitting Companion Lansing Burroughs, of Augusta, Past High Priest of Kentucky, and Past Grand King of New Jersey, to full membership in this Grand Chapter. After full investigation of the subject, as far as our limited time and opportunity would afford, we find the Grand Constitution of this Grand Chapter provides who are to be members thereof. While it provides for its own Past Officers, it is silent as to the Past Officers of other jurisdictions. Therefore, while we regret the lack of provision in our Grand Constitution to meet this case, we think we should observe its requirements, without extending its limits. Although we would be pleased to recommend the passage of the resolution admitting our worthy and distinguished Companion to membership, could we do so, we must recommend that the resolution do not pass, and that Companion Lansing Burroughs be cordially invited to visit this Grand Chapter, at any and all of its Convocations, when all the kindness and courtesy due to a Companion of his high rank, character and worth will be cheerfully extended, and he will always find a hearty welcome among us.

We have also had referred to us that part of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest's address and his recommendation in regard to the Grand Lodge of M. M., of England and Wales, in establishing Lodges in Quebec. This question requires more time for investigation than we can now devote to it, and not having before us all the facts and circumstances to be considered in deciding a question of so grave importance, we recommend that this Grand Chapter express no opinion at this time in regard to the action of this Grand Body, and that the whole subject be referred to the

incoming Grand Officers, and that they report at next Annual Grand Convocation.

M. E. Comp. W. A. Graham, (Fort Gaines) G. H. P.

R. F. Comp. J. E. Blackshear, (Macon) G. S.

ILLINOIS.

The 34th Convocation was held at Chicago, October 25th, 1883.

M. E. Comp. Samuel Shannon, G. H. P.

He formed two new Chapters, and revoked one Charter.

R. E. Comp. William Forbes was re-appointed their Grand Representative here.

On the general condition of the Craft in the State, the Grand High Priest says :—

“After consultation with other Grand and Past Grand officers the conclusion was reached that a triennial report of the financial standing of the Subordinate Chapters would accomplish the same good as an annual report. Accordingly I have not demanded from the grand officers in charge of districts, statements of the finances of the Chapters in their respective districts.

The reports received from the District Deputies show that peace and prosperity prevail throughout our jurisdiction. The Deputies have been faithful and zealous in the discharge of their duties, and to them I am under obligations for valuable assistance.”

It was ruled that a chapter under dispensation cannot admit joining members, nor grant dimits.

There is no provision in their constitution limiting the time between the reception and reference of a petition, and the report of a committee thereon and subsequent conferring degrees. It was sought to obtain some rule on this matter, but the Grand Chapter decided to make no change in their practice in this respect.

The following resolution was recommended by the Committee on Jurisprudence :—

“*Resolved*, That every member of a Chapter holding Lodge membership without this Grand Chapter Jurisdiction, shall present the Secretary of his Chapter, yearly, evidence of his continued good standing in his Lodge ; and it shall be the duty of the Secretary to make it a matter of record.”

Not a single case of grievance was brought before the Grand Chapter, which indicates a gratifying state of harmony in so large and important a jurisdiction.

The following was adopted :—

“*Resolved*, That in cases of suspension for non-payment of dues, of Companions, by Chapters whose Charters have been arrested, such Companions may be reinstated by the Chapter nearest to the last location of the extinct Chapter, and become a member of the same, in the usual

manner, after having paid to the Grand Secretary the amount found to have been due to the extinct Chapter."

Comp. Theodore T. Gurney is the author of an extensive and elaborate Report on Correspondence. In his notice of California, we find the following :—

"The committee on jurisprudence made the following presentation :

The question is asked and referred to your committee, 'Is a written objection, made by a Companion who is unavoidably absent from the meeting at which a ballot is to be taken, and dated prior thereto, sufficient reason for declaring the candidate rejected?'

In the important matter of receiving material into Royal Arch fellowship, the utmost care should be exercised, and every facility given for the fullest expression of the opinions of those who have not only the privilege, but whose duty it is to weigh carefully and judge of the merits of petitions for this Masonic distinction. Your committee are of the opinion, that in a case such as stated in the question submitted, the High Priest should give the objection such consideration as to postpone the ballot, and if the objection is not formally withdrawn at a subsequent session, it is his duty to declare the candidate rejected.'

We must dissent from the conclusions of the committee. This is the first instance, of which we have any knowledge, that a ballot was withheld from members. We have heard of both written and verbal (minority) objections to the reception of petitions, but never before that an absent member was permitted to strangle the rights of his associates. It may be possible that our sister jurisdiction has some local regulation that justifies its conclusion; but, if not, the universal law of the institution provides that a rejection is to be determined by *ballot*, and in no other way, excepting in case of objections subsequent to an election. Not only is this a dangerous precedent, but a precedent entirely inimical to the inalienable rights of Masons to express, in forms provided by law, their estimate of the candidate. The Grand Lodge of Illinois is so tenacious upon this subject, that it makes the revelation of a vote, before or after a ballot, an offence, which, if established, would secure the punishment of the offender, even though he made known his vote to the master of the lodge. More than this; it is unnecessary, because an absent member's right to objection is not impaired by an election. We will ask the distinguished committee, what would be the form of record in such a case; and if it is justifiable in a member to make known his vote before, during, or after proceedings?"

"He concurs with us in the opinion that "substitutes" should not be interdicted. He is entirely mistaken in the supposition that it is "the universal custom when the charter of a Masonic body is revoked, to hold its members, except those especially exempted by the revoking power, as suspended." In Illinois, the member of a suspended body is a non-affiliate, but he cannot unite with a Chapter except upon the certificate of the Grand Secretary that he is not indebted to the suspended Chapter. We hold that there is no authority in *Masonry* for the suspension of a Mason, except for cause. If a member, or members, of a suspended body have been, by overt unmasonic acts, the cause of the dissolution, charges should be preferred by the Grand Chapter, or by its order in the chapter next of jurisdiction, and the delinquents punished; but we do not tolerate the tyrannical dictum that a Mason can be deprived of any right without opportunity for defence.

As it seems to us, there is an entire want of either charity or fraternity in

a procedure that ousts a Mason of his rights, except he has been proved an offender. This will not do, Companion Caswell. The rights of a Mason should be considered quite as sacred than the rights of a citizen, who is never punished for violation of law except as the result of a judicial proceeding. Do you know of any statute, in any constitutional government, that inflicts a penalty in the absence of formal inquiry?"

He thinks that the District Report of Comp. J. Ross Robertson is particularly attractive and a model document.

He gives some extracts from our Report, and follows them with comments:—

"Entirely correct. Masons should not be worried over the growth of modern secret institutions. They are well enough in their way, and will doubtless be of service to those who seek that class of insurance. They are necessary ephemeral, because under the direction of mercenary interests—their life depending upon the integrity of accounting officers, and the disposition of members to consult their personal interests—rather than resting upon that broad humanity upon which the lodge is founded. *Masons* know nothing of a *return* for charity. It is quite true that uninformed brethren are of the impression that their contributions to lodge invests them with a *claim* to financial considerations in the event of indigency; but if Masters, Principals or Priors, would rehearse the fundamental law upon this subject, this false estimate of their relations to the fraternity would be soon dissipated. We expressed our views, and gave the law governing, in our report of last year.

"We do not assent to the proposition that 'non-payment of dues should not be punishable with the same severity as unmasonic conduct,' because, oftentimes, arises cases of flagrant violations of law by those who treat the lodge or chapter with undisguised injustice and contempt. We do not bring to mind an offence that is of more magnitude than a positive, unequivocal determination of the delinquent to ignore the body of which he is a member, by refusing to recognize, in any way, its claims. Such a man has not an element of Masonry in his composition, and should be expelled. To meet the varied conditions of delinquents, we have long been of the opinion that Grand Bodies should not have any iron rule upon the subject, but should permit their constituents to exercise discretion in disciplinary proceedings; either to drop from the roll, suspend or expel. If a member is found obdurate and meriting punishment for delinquency, his offence should be classed with any other infraction of the moral law.

He is of the opinion 'that a member of a lodge who is suspended for unmasonic conduct, or one who is stricken from the roll for non-payment of dues, is not in good Masonic standing.' We suppose that a person may have Masonic standing, if not by some considered 'good,' under the unwritten law. Generalities will not settle such questions. What does Companion Robertson mean? We know that a person suspended is divested of his Masonic rights, and cannot have any rating as a Mason during the life of the disability; but if simply stricken from the roll of membership, his status as a Mason, under the law, is unimpaired. He, therefore, has 'Masonic standing.' He may not be quite fragrant, but just as fragrant as many that pay dues. The unwritten law to which we have often alluded permits the exercise of personal judgment in determining who are 'worthy.' If Brother A. applies to Brother Robertson for relief, *he* (Companion R.) is to settle the question of the 'good' character of the applicant. Is this not true? If, therefore, Brother A. is not found 'worthy'

of the attention of Brother R., he cannot be said by that brother to be in 'good Masonic standing.' His rights as a member of a lodge are unimpaired, still he is under a cloud, and is not entitled to courtesies that a better character would have commanded. Please define 'good Masonic standing.'"

As to the non-payment of dues, we believe that a mason who is able to pay and will not pay should be punished strictly, but we would like to have a chance to be merciful to our poorer brethren who may find themselves not able to pay all their dues, and yet have an instinctive delicacy against letting that fact be known. Nothing can be harder to a sensitive mind to bear, than for one who has held up his head with the best of us, to have to make the humiliating confession that he is too poor to pay his dues. We want a chance to help that brother if possible, and we do not want to be compelled to suspend or expel him just the same as if he were a murderer, thief or forger. We believe that there is a wide distinction between a crime and a failure to pay dues. True it is that the wilful failure to pay dues is a Masonic offence, and as such it should be visited with punishment. The brother who, being able, does not and will not pay his dues should be suspended, that is, he should not be allowed the same rights and privileges as a brother who complies with the rules, until he does pay his arrears. We do not expel for non-payment of dues. We reserve the highest penalty known to our code and the greatest punishment we can inflict, expulsion, for the gravest offences.

As to the term "Good Masonic Standing," we think that Comp. Gurney has answered his own question very satisfactorily. We are quite willing to accept his definition of good standing. A mason who is under no disabilities as a mason is in good standing.

Comp. Gurney makes a distinction between one who is suspended, and one who is stricken from the roll. This distinction is unknown to us. It may depend upon the local law of Illinois, but it can have no application where the difference is not defined by some enactment.

Our idea of the two terms (in the absence of explanation,) would be that suspension would be the lighter punishment of the two. The word suspension implies something temporary in its nature—something that can be terminated, and as soon as it is terminated, the *status in quo* is immediately resumed. The converse is the case with the other term. When a brother's name is stricken from the roll, something must be done to restore it. A positive act is necessary, and the original state is

not resumed so easily as in the case of a simple suspension. Will Comp. Gurney kindly give us the difference between these two terms and also the distinction?

Comp. Gurney believes that any officer should be allowed to resign.

In his notice of Quebec, he says :—

“The foregoing correspondence is given that our Companions may have an understanding of the problem, should it become their duty in the future to reiterate the oft-repeated determination to maintain the independent sovereignty of Grand Chapters. If it was a fact that Victoria Chapter was in existence, it would not have any bearing upon the question of the right of the Grand Chapter of Quebec to maintain *exclusive jurisdiction* over the Royal Craft *within its territorial limits*. Like a prominent dignitary of our country who could never forget that he *had* wielded the baton of authority, so our brethren of England do not seem inclined to relinquish the idea that Masons of dependencies of the British Crown should occupy the same relations to home authority as do the political divisions of the Empire. If we are not at fault in memory, England has never accorded unqualified recognition to any Grand Lodges, or Grand Chapters of the Dominion. One word in conclusion. With all due respect for the opinions of our brethren of the Grand Chapter, and Grand Lodge of Quebec, we are of the decided opinion that the latter, in permitting lodges and chapters of the mother country to exist in defiance of her authority, and at the same time permitting their members fraternal intercourse with the Masons of her jurisdiction, is not only undignified, but an admission of weakness, both humiliating and unnecessary. The Grand Bodies of the entire Continent will sustain our brethren of Quebec in an unqualified assertion of their territorial, jurisdictional *independent sovereignty*. Maintain your just rights at *all hazards*, if you are to preserve self respect.”

M. E. Comp. William L. Orr, (Alton,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. G. W. Barnard, (Chicago,) G. S.

INDIANA.

The 38th Convocation was held at Indianapolis, Oct. 17, 1883.

M. E. Comp. Albert P. Charles, G. H. P., refused a number of applications for special dispensations and made no decisions worthy of report.

With two exceptions, all the subordinates are in a healthy condition.

The annual dues of subordinate Chapters to the Grand Chapter were reduced to 25 cents per member, and a Committee was appointed to invest the surplus funds of the Grand Chapter.

The following reports of the Committee on Jurisprudence were adopted :—

“The Committee on Jurisprudence, to which was referred the proposed amendment of Rule 74 of the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Chapter

so as to require but one clear ballot to elect to all the degrees in the Chapter having duly considered the same now report the proposition back, and recommend its adoption."

"The Committee on Jurisprudence, to which was referred the proposition to amend Rule 141 so as to read as follows, to-wit :

Rule 141. A Companion who, for any cause, may have been suspended or expelled by a Lodge of Master Masons, and subsequently restored by the Lodge, is thereby restored to good standing in his Chapter, and the Secretary shall so note the fact on the records—

Having considered the amendment as proposed, now report the same back and recommend its adoption."

"Amend Rule 75 by striking out the last clause in Rule 75, and inserting 'Such objection shall be in force until withdrawn or the objector ceases to be a member of said Chapter.'"

In accordance with the provisions of their law, the report on correspondence is prepared by the Grand High Priest. We make the following extracts :—

"This decision, under the California method of dealing with non-affiliates is correct ; but from our standpoint, it seems to us to be wrong. We suppose no word we can speak will add to the weight of our side of the controversy which has been waged so fiercely over the California way of dealing with the question. A brother dimit from his Lodge, he fails to affiliate with another, either because he does not try, or because, upon trial, he is refused admission to membership ; soon his dimit "runs out" and then he becomes a non-affiliate. Under the California rule he is then suspended 'constitutionally,' and *ipse facto* he becomes suspended in his Chapter, no matter how worthy, no matter how deserving, no matter how valuable a member he may be, no matter if the fault be not at his door, yet up he goes without any trial or defence, no opportunity to show his blamelessness or the injury that a lodge has inflicted upon him. We are speaking now from the decision ; it is broad and sweeping, with no exceptions. We can not see any of the fairness and justice which should characterize Masonry, either in such a broad, sweeping rule of the Grand Lodge, or of the Chapter which follows it. If non-affiliation in a Lodge (whether the fault of the brother or of the Lodge) is suspension *ipse facto* in a Chapter, then we think with equal propriety, should the loss of a leg or an arm or any other disability which renders him physically unable to literally comply with the requirements of Capitular Masonry, suspend a Companion. If he is to be hoisted with his own petard in one case, let him be hoisted in the other also. He has no right or business to become a non-affiliate, even if the Lodge won't receive him—that must, somehow, be his fault ; and so he has no right or business to become a cripple after receiving the degrees ; that must be his fault—let him, at his peril, be hale and have his limbs as a man ought. We do not believe non-affiliation in a Lodge should work suspension in the Chapter. To us it seems neither right nor just ; but whatever our opinions may be, we are aware that they will not affect our California, Oregon Nebraska and Missouri Companions, or those of other jurisdictions which are joined to their new idols on the non-affiliate question as perhaps we are joined to ours."

"The Grand High Priest declined to grant dispensations to ballot for candidates "out of time." In this the Grand High Priest did right. We fail to see what power a Grand High Priest has to set aside a By-Law either of the Grand Chapter or of Subordinate Chapters, when constitutional.

And when a Chapter By-Law clearly prescribes, as is its undoubted right, the time when ballots shall be spread for candidates, we can not see what inherent rights a Grand High Priest or Grand High any body else has to set them aside. We believe in Grand Officers exercising their rights, and sometimes think they fail to exercise them sharply enough towards derelict Chapters. The rights of Grand High Priests are derived from the Constitution, and beyond that they can not go, more than can the High Priest of a Subordinate Chapter; and we have never noticed power delegated to a Grand High Priest to set aside constitutional Rules and Regulations. Even if Grand High Priests had this power, we believe the last place in the world they should use it would be in hastening the passage of candidates through the degrees. As was well said by the Grand High Priest of Arkansas, he believed his Grand Chapter made a mistake when it abrogated the rule requiring a candidate to pass an examination upon his proficiency before advancement. Dispensations to hasten progress of applicants, if based upon the proficiency of the candidate, would not be objectionable if within the scope of a Grand Officer's powers. But when was ever an application to cyclone a candidate through the degrees bottomed upon his expertness in the exoteric or esoteric ritual? We venture to say that no chief officer of any department of Masonry can call to mind one such case. We do not believe in cannon-ball speed, and do believe much of the lukewarmness, lack of interest and non-affiliation with which our officers burden their reports and addresses, flows from haste in advancement and lack of thorough work in acquiring that knowledge every candidate is supposed to possess before he takes the succeeding step.

He granted one dispensation for a new Chapter. His conservative action in this matter is deserving of imitation. He refused to issue the warrant until satisfied that the new Chapter had three Lodges clearly in its jurisdiction, and left each of the Chapters affected by his action the same number.

He decided a re-elected High Priest should be re-installed. That an appointed officer can not dimit during the period for which he was installed.

The theory that membership is voluntary on the part of members seems to be exploded by this decision. Suppose an officer, after serving half his term, moves without the jurisdiction, severing all his business and social interests therein, is it advisable to keep him hung on the Chapter by the eyelids because he is an officer, and for no other reason in the world? Is it not better for him, and for the Craft in his new residence, to permit him to affiliate in his new home? In this jurisdiction we allow officers to dimit and resign, and have seen no evil effects result therefrom; indeed, we have found it to be advantageous in practice. Companion Woodbury based his decision upon the argument that 'the officers had sworn to perform certain duties for a specified length of time.' Would not the same reasoning prevent an installed officer from being absent at a single meeting, and prevent him from moving out of the jurisdiction, unless he still kept within a cable tow-length of the Chapter of which he was an officer? No matter what business, social, or family interests might imperatively demand his making his domicil elsewhere, yet the terrible incubus of his installation covenant must hold him so near his Chapter that he can each meeting discharge the duties devolving upon him. Would he be permitted to die after having sworn to serve a specified time? We are all searching for means to reduce the 'great army of non-affiliates.' We respectfully suggest, if it is so efficacious with officers, that there be administered to them the installation covenant.

He decided that fees could not be voted back to a newly made Companion. To speak as do the profane, he decided, in other words, that the evil one should not be whipped around the stump. We believe in that doctrine too."

M. E. Comp. Robert VanValzah, (Terre Haute) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. John M. Bramwell, (Indianapolis) G. S.

IOWA.

The 30th Convocation was held at Dubuque, October 16th, 1883.

M. E. Comp. Augustus C. Sherwood, G. H. P.

There were 83 Chapters represented out of 95—a very good attendance.

The death of their Grand Secretary, Comp. W. B. Langridge, is thus mentioned :—

"Amidst the busy scenes of life, whether of pleasure, or in the performance of the sterner duties of private or public affairs, the insatiate archer continues his ceaseless round, and removes from our ranks, one by one, until we ask ourselves, 'Who next?' While the past year has not been numerically great in the list of mortality, yet one has fallen, who, for a quarter of a century, has been a pillar of wisdom and strength to our beloved Order, and his removal by death has made our Temple to tremble; the shock has been felt by all.

On the 4th day of August last, the unwelcome message came to us, 'Langridge is dead.' How inexpressibly sad were those few words to us, and how were we reminded that many, many hearts would beat with ours a sad requiem, for his untimely taking off, and it would be whispered from lip to lip, 'Langridge is dead.'

Who, I ask, is there, in the ranks of the whole fraternity of this great jurisdiction, whose removal from among us would create so great a void, would be as severely felt by his associates and companions, so deeply lamented? You say, 'No one.' So say we all.

This eminent and beloved companion was a splendid exemplification of a *man*. As it has been written, so would we repeat, 'His life was gentle; and the elements so mixed in him, that nature might stand up and say to all the world, *This is a man*.'

His many successive years of service as Grand Secretary, his patient toil, his obliging disposition, his kindness of heart, his courteous manner, endeared him to the craft wherever known. His friends were—all who knew him; his enemies, none. His gifted pen leaves the annals of the Order glistening with brilliant effusions emanated from his fertile brain. But, alas! his hand is palsied by death, his tongue is dumb, that brain has found eternal rest.

'His death was untimely, and his brethren mourn.'"

Six new Chapters were formed, and the following decisions given :—

"Query 1st. Has a Chapter authority to waive jurisdiction to permit a brother to take the R. A. degrees of a Chapter in another state?

Answer. Only in this: The subordinate may waive jurisdiction over the brother, which extends only so far as to leave it in the hands of the

Grand Chapter or Grand High Priest, who can complete it, they being the only power to waive jurisdiction between states.

Query 2nd. A companion having received the degrees of Royal Arch Mason, fails to sign the by-laws of his Chapter. Does this nullify his membership?

Answer No. The moment he becomes a Royal Arch Mason by conference of the ceremonies of the degree, that moment he becomes a member of the Chapter, and is from that date entitled to all the rights and privileges thereof, as well as liable for dues, and subject to discipline in case of any transgression of its laws, rules, etc. A Chapter cannot make non-affiliates."

Quebec was sustained by the adoption of the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, as under :—

"The Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred a communication from M. E. Companion H. L. Robinson, Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec, would fraternally report that they have given the subject discussed in such communication due consideration, and, believing that the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Quebec of right has exclusive jurisdiction over Capitular Masonry within that province, and that the attempt on the part of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales to assume jurisdiction of and charter Lodges within that province is an unwarranted usurpation of authority upon its part. We would recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter recognizes the M. E. Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec as the only lawful and legitimate authority or power from which charters or warrants for such Lodges may be granted or issued, and we declare that in our judgment Mark Master Masons advanced in such Lodges so warranted or chartered should alone be recognized as having received the degree in a regular Lodge duly and lawfully assembled."

The terms of Grand Representatives are hereafter to be for three years only.

Comp. Horace S. Winslow reports on correspondence, and thus gives his views on the right of officers to resign :—

"He decided that an appointed officer cannot 'dimit during the period for which he was installed, because to dimit carries with it a voluntary resignation of duties which he has sworn to perform for a specified time,' from which most illogical reasoning we respectfully dissent. We suppose the companion might remove his residence, or he might die. In either event the duties he had assumed to perform he could not, and we conceive there would be no violation of covenant obligations. It is usual to swear all officers in civil life well and truly to perform the duties of their offices for their elective term, but no one ever heard of the doctrine that they could not resign because of such a 'swear.' True it is few there be that do resign, but the blessed privilege is accorded to all American citizens to do so if they desire, and we can see no reason why a contrary opinion should prevail in our Order."

He thinks that Chapters should be allowed to appear as such at a burial service :—

"And the report and resolution were adopted. We would be inclined, with the light we now have, to dissent. It has ever seemed to us that a funeral occasion was a Masonic one, peculiarly appropriate to be attended

by any branch or grade of the Order as a distinctive body. A mixing—which, we suppose, means an association with other orders attending the same funeral, but as separate organizations—certainly must be harmless. In one sense, at all Masonic funerals there is a ‘mixing’ with all others who may attend, and yet no one can think for a moment that anything un-masonic is occurring. Indeed, there is not; and that others, in an organized or unorganized capacity, should attend, it seems to us does not interfere with or affect in the least a Lodge, Chapter, or Commandery.”

M. E. Comp. Clark Varnum (Malcom), G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. John C. Parish (Des Moines), G. S.

KANSAS.

The 19th Convocation was held at Lawrence, February 19th, 1884.

M. E. Comp. Henry M. Waters, G. H. P.

In the address of the Grand High Priest we find that the reports from the Chapters show that Capitular Masonry is in a fairly prosperous condition throughout the jurisdiction. He issued dispensations for three new Chapters, and a large number of special dispensations.

A new constitution was considered and adopted.

The sum of \$200 was voted to the Companions in the Ohio valley, whose homes had been desolated by flood.

New By-Laws were adopted, and a committee was appointed to compile the standing regulations and decisions, and to prepare an installation ceremony, all to be published in the proceedings.

The Grand Secretary reports on correspondence, and gives our proceedings of 1883 a good notice. In answer to one of our remarks, he says:—

“He notices it as a ‘curious circumstance’ that, in the report of our Committee on Chapters U. D., it is said that the Secretary should not put on record the character of the report of the committee on the application of a candidate for the degrees or a companion for membership, and inquires ‘why not?’

Answer. Our committees are only required to gather facts for the information of their respective Chapters and report the same, leaving the Chapters to determine whether the facts are such as to warrant the election of candidates or not. In other words, our committees have no judicial duties to perform, such being left to the Chapters as a whole.”

Comp. Brown is sound on the vexed question of suspension for non-payment of dues and also on the question of the validity of objections to the advancement of a candidate after a clear ballot. In the main, his views are ours.

In his notice of Kentucky, we find the following excellent remarks:—

“True, every word, and a huge pity it is that the admission must be

made. It seems strange to us that companions are found, who boast of being the 'Sons of Light,' into whose heads not ten of a thousand masonic rays ever enter, whom neither ambition to excel, nor shame because of ignorance prompt to open the windows of their brain and let in some of the streams of light which are flowing below, around and above them, and thus become fitted for something better and more conducive to life, than to fill up lines on a parade or dangle ornaments at a fancy ball. Yes, companion, more time should intervene between degrees, and then upon none except naturally bright, intelligent men should they be conferred. Masonry requires intellect, thoughtful habits, a disposition to read and acquire, and favors high moral, manly attainment. It offers no premiums for stupidity or ignorance. At every step, from the first to the last degree, it inculcates grand moral or intellectual lessons, and at every advance the candidate being lifted higher, is bidden to look upward for the light which purifies the heart, clears the understanding, illumines the soul, and therefore qualifies him to enjoy the highest culture attainable by humanity. It is an incontrovertible fact that the man who has no taste for learning, never acquires the knowledge necessary to a full masonic life. However much he may advance, his proficiency will be that of the parrot, he will be and remain a mere babbler of other men's thoughts, which he can neither comprehend nor expound. Far too many such are within the masonic orders. Through their want of capacity for work, their indolence and boorish indifference to obligations, lodges and chapters rot down and over them the faithful masonic chronicler is compelled to carve 'Extinct.' "

M. E. Comp. George S. Green, (Manhattan,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. John H. Brown, (Wyandotte,) G. S.

KENTUCKY.

The 68th Convocation was held at Louisville, October 16th, 1883.

M. E. Comp. Howard R. French, G. H. P.

On the condition of the Craft in that jurisdiction, Comp. French thinks that there is considerable room for improvement :—

"It would be useless for me, as it would be disingenous, to attempt to disguise the fact that capitular Masonry is not in a flourishing condition in Kentucky. Much of this state of things may be traced to the fact that the tendency of the present day is towards the Orders of Knights Templar. The subordinate degrees are merely used as stepping stones to attain that height, which once scaled, the ladder is thrust aside as if it had accomplished its full purpose. I think this is to be deeply regretted and will finally result in severing the chivalrous orders and ancient craft Masory.

Much more, probably, is due to the fact that so few Chapters are fortunate enough to possess officers fully qualified to do the work. I think this might be in some measure remedied if the candidate were compelled to 'wait a time with patience' and required to pass an examination for each advancement as in the symbolic Lodges. He would thus gain a more thorough knowledge of the ritual, and its lessons be more forcibly impressed upon him ; not only because he would have more time to consider and reflect upon them, but because the officers of the Chapter would be the better enabled to prepare themselves to teach them. Probably a majority of the High Priests, except in the cities where the frequency of the work fixes it,

and keeps it fresh in the memory, slur the work, get it confused, and often become embarrassed, when the effort is made to advance and exalt a candidate at the same meeting. I ventured the assertion that few country Chapters can work without seeking aid from some companion distinguished in his particular locality for his knowledge and ability. Subordinate Chapters will not display that usefulness they were intended to promote, so long as this condition of things exists.

I hope you will realize this, companions, and redouble your efforts to bring your Chapters up to a higher standard of excellence in this respect, that your members may exhibit in their daily walk and conversation the result of your labors. Will you not arouse yourselves from this 'dumb forgetfulness' that is creeping over you, shake off this lethargy, and resolve for the future to 'quit you like men.' May I put the question to you in all seriousness, what are you accomplishing for yourselves or for your fellows? Rather than keep up this feeble show of organization, you had best disband, and seek some other mode of making men 'wiser, better, and consequently happier.'

You will thereby regain your own self-respect, and command more dignity before the world, than by parading in the vestments of a Royal Priesthood, make a pretence of keeping alive fires upon altars whose sacrifice has long ago been consumed, and naught remains but the ashes, and the faint odor of an incense, which once ascended on high, leaving behind it an atmosphere of sanctity in which you stalk about like ghosts in the misty moon light of the 'witching hour,' to make the practical world inquire,

'Why thy canoniz'd bones, harsed in death
Have burst their cerements.'

Permit me also to urge you to resume a practice that has grown almost into entire disuse. I refer to the keeping in each Chapter of a Book of Marks. This beautiful custom has become almost obsolete, and the ritual in that respect meaningless. The keeping of such a record is really an imperative duty, and if strictly observed, the Book of Marks will prove not only a pleasing memento, but its practical usefulness demonstrated in many ways."

On the Council degrees, he says :—

"It is too late now to discuss either the principle or policy of this assumption of jurisdiction by this Grand Chapter and its subsequent relinquishment.

I may be permitted however, to say, that this Grand Chapter did not solicit the exercise of these rights, or seek to coerce her saucy offspring of somewhat doubtful paternity; and while I am not 'a prophet or the son of a prophet,' I lift the veil of a not distant future, and say to the wanderers, 'come ye disconsolate where'r ye languish,' come to the bosom of your old mother, and find shelter in her arms, feeble and attenuated though they may be. The paps which ye have sucked contain still the only milk to nourish and sustain you."

His decisions were as follows :—

"1. The High Priest has the power to *summons* members of his Chapter to attend a special meeting.

2. A Chapter has the right to reduce the fees of the guard to take effect during the term of the then incumbent.

3. A lawful quorum at the annual election of officers is nine *members* of the Chapter.

4. An officer of a Chapter cannot dimit during his term of office.

The Secretary has no power to grant a dimit, even if the member 'is

clear of the books.' Application must be made to the Chapter at a regular meeting."

We also quote the following, and are glad to have the opportunity of giving it further publicity :—

"The earnest efforts made by the directors of the Widows' and Orphans' Home to qualify the children for useful and honorable occupations, have been further manifested by the establishment of a printing office in the Home, in which both girls and boys are employed, and taught the 'art preservative of all arts.' From this office is issued semi-monthly a paper called 'The Masonic Home Journal.' All the work on this paper is done by the inmates of the Home, as a means first of teaching them, and second, to contribute something to their own support. The price of the paper is one dollar a year, so small every member of the fraternity in the State may become a subscriber without deprivation. He would thereby not only assist in a good work, and himself be informed as to the current events of interest in the masonic world, but furnish his family chaste and instructive literature. I ask that you will urge its claims upon the brethren in your respective localities."

The Committee on Jurisprudence fully concur with the Grand High Priest in the necessity of examining candidates before advancement. They recommend every Chapter to pass a By-law providing that one month at least should elapse between each degree and that every candidate should pass an examination satisfactory to the Chapter before being allowed to receive another degree. On the second and fourth decisions they have the following remarks ; the first and third decisions were also approved :—

"2d. A Chapter has the right to reduce the fees of the Guard to take effect during the term of the then incumbent.

The committee are of opinion that the Chapter *cannot* make such a change to take effect during the term of the then incumbent. Such action might be taken to go into effect after the expiration of the then existing term.

"4th. An officer of a Chapter cannot dimit during his term of office.

The Secretary has no power to grant a dimit, even if the member is 'clear of the books,' application must be made to the Chapter at a regular meeting.

By article 8 section 21, of the Constitution of this Grand Body, it is provided, that 'the officers (of a Chapter) when elected must be installed * * and when thus installed shall hold their offices until their successors shall have been duly elected and installed.' This we believe is decisive that *no officer* of a Chapter can dimit during his term of office.

By section 21 of the Rules adopted by this body for the government of Subordinate Chapters, it is provided, that a member 'may at all times for reasons satisfactory to himself, *upon application to the Chapter* and payment of all dues, withdraw his membership.'

This we believe requires application to be made formally to the Chapter and its assent given before the dimit can be issued by the Secretary.

We therefore approve this decision of the Grand High Priest."

Comp. Hiram Basset reports on correspondence and notices Canada for 1883.

M. E. Comp. R. M. Fairleigh, (Hopkinsville) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. J. H. Branham, (Louisville) G. S.

LOUISIANA.

The 37th Convocation was held at New Orleans, February 14th, 1884.

M. E. Comp. James L. Lobdell, G. H. P.

He reports the utmost good feeling and cordiality prevailing among the Chapters and also that for the first time in many years, the finances of the Grand Chapter are in a sound and healthy condition.

The most important part of the business transacted appears in the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, which was adopted as follows :—

“Your Committee on Masonic Law and Jurisprudence respectfully report that they have examined the portions of the address of the M. E. Grand High Priest referred to them, covering his various decisions and acts, and take pleasure in stating that they find them in accordance with masonic law and usage.

Your Committee have also had under consideration the resolution presented yesterday by Comp. Pinckard, declaring “that the publication in the newspapers of the proceedings of the masonic bodies of this jurisdiction, are contrary to masonic usage and deserving of the severest condemnation.”

We fail to understand what is sought to be reached by this resolution. For very many years it has been the custom for masonic bodies, particularly grand masonic bodies in this country, to publish such part of their proceedings as are proper to be written, and in such shape as by no means to prevent their reaching the eyes of the profane, but rather that they should be spread before the world. It has also long been usual in this country to announce important actions taken by masonic bodies, by telegraph, throughout the length and breadth of the land, in every newspaper accessible to the wires. The general proceedings of all the grand masonic bodies of this State have long been published in the newspapers of this city and state, as matters of public interest, and the doings of the national grand masonic bodies have always been regarded as items of news, and telegraphed to and published in the newspapers everywhere, and we cannot but regard such publication as not only proper but useful ; seeing the utter impossibility of every mason interested being present at our councils. Those that are absent are entitled to know what is going on, without having to wait for the publication of the proceedings, and we cannot see what harm can arise from the newspapers anticipating that publication.

We, of course, admit that it might be possible for some thoughtless, careless, or mischievous person to publish something that ought not to be written about our proceedings, but it is not likely or probable that such a case will ever arise. Nothing of the kind is suggested as having already happened, and if it should occur, it could easily be treated as it deserved, and even then would not give rise to the adoption of so sweeping and comprehensive a proposition as contemplated by the resolution under discussion. We advise the rejection of the resolution.

There is no report on correspondence.

M. E. Comp. Alfred Shaw, (New Orleans) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. J. C. Batchelor, (New Orleans) G. S.

MAINE.

The 58th Convocation was held at Portland, May 1, 1883.

M. E. Comp. Joseph A. Locke, G.H.P., thus excuses himself for issuing a dispensation which he evidently thinks was improper :—

"May 12, 1882, received a letter from Hancock R. A. Chapter, 'asking dispensation to join with James E. Hall Post, G. A. R., in the observance of Memorial Day.'"

May 17th, I answered as follows (having first written a letter denying the request, which was withheld) :

"I have been in doubt as to the propriety of granting the request. In 1874, Grand Master Cargill refused a similar request. * * * * * This decision was approved in Grand Lodge. There has not been any decision on this point in the Grand Chapter.

"I admire the fidelity of the members of the G. A. R. to the memories of our '*noble dead*.'" It is meet that we should honor their deeds, annually place the crown and chaplet upon their headstones, and scatter flowers, sweet harbingers of peace, o'er their graves.

But this is not strictly a masonic rite. However, the Grand Lodge, at the last annual meeting, partly opened the door, by granting a similar request. Therefore, in accordance with the request of your M. E. High Priest, I hereby grant a dispensation to Hancock R. A. Chapter to join with James E. Hall Post, G. A. R., in the observance of Memorial Day."

An excuse was certainly necessary. We are strongly of the opinion that Masons should not appear in public as such except on occasions strictly masonic, and the observance of "Memorial Day" has assuredly no Masonic feature.

Our proceedings for 1882 receive careful attention at the hands of Comp. J. H. Drummond. He compliments Comp. J. Ross Robertson on his valuable district report and gives several extracts from it. He thinks that our requirement that an officer must hold various offices before he can hold others, necessarily injures the Chapter.

In their Royal Arch Ritual there are references to the secret work of the intermediate degrees, and so they cannot admit an English Royal Arch Mason into their Chapters until he has received those degrees. Any Chapter, however, is authorized to confer these degrees upon such a visitor, without regard to the fact that he is a resident of another jurisdiction, and, we presume, without charge therefor.

In his notice of Illinois he says :—

"He can see no good reason why an officer should not be allowed to resign or dimit. Nor can we, except those officers who gain rank by holding an office. The Master, by service, becomes a Past Master, and we think he should not have the power to cut up his official year and create more than one Past Master in one term: so of the Wardens, in jurisdictions which hold that one must have been a Warden before he can be a Master. In these cases, they acquire the rank by installation, and so we cannot

deprive them of the rank afterwards. But the idea that an officer cannot resign, we believe (as that is the only reason we have ever known to be given), grew out of the modern fashion of *literal* construction, which makes the official obligation mean that the one taking it *will serve the whole term for which he is elected!* If he dies, he violates his obligation! However, usage so generally sanctioned the idea that an officer cannot resign, that in Maine we amended our Constitution and inserted a provision that any officer below a Junior Warden might resign."

Also under "Oregon":—

"This idea of a Grand Body is precisely the reverse of the one that has universally prevailed, so far as we have any knowledge. A Legislature exists for a definite term fixed by law. The one which follows is an *entirely distinct body*. There are *successive* Legislatures. But the Grand Lodge has a *continuous* existence, and holds different sessions. It is true that its membership is constantly changing, because, no matter when Lodge officers are elected and installed, the moment they are installed, the Master (and in most jurisdictions, the Wardens also) becomes a member of the *Grand Lodge*, not of a *session* of the Grand Lodge. We have the fiftieth *Legislature*, but not the fiftieth *Grand Lodge*, although we *do* have the fiftieth session of THE Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge at one session *does* have the power to correct the record of a former session, as made up by the Grand Secretary: *and that power has often been exercised*. The Legislature has no such power over the journal of a former Legislature; but does have that power over a former session of the same Legislature. In Grand Lodges, the *minutes* are read before the close of the communication, but the *record* is not read for it has not been made. Undoubtedly, the custom of reading the record at the next session, arose before the custom of printing the record; and if the record has not been printed, it ought to be read and confirmed. This custom is so old, that its recognition is entirely proper, even when the record has been printed. And, whether printed or not, the custom requires the approval by the Grand Lodge, of the record as made up by the Grand Secretary."

"This would seem to refer to objection *before* ballot. We are not aware that any such thing is allowed. But if, *after* ballot and before a degree is conferred, an objection is made, it is equivalent to a rejection by ballot. How new this rule is, we do not know: it existed as old law when we became a mason. It would follow that in those jurisdictions in which there is a *ballot for each degree*, the same right of objection exists, with the same consequences.

But we hold that one ballot should give all the degrees: if the candidate has taken one of the degrees voted, he should then be beyond rejection by a single voice: the objection should be submitted to the Chapter, and, unless that body determines it to be sufficient, be overruled. But we do not agree with Comp. Patton, that the advancement of a candidate should be refused only for causes for which he might be suspended or expelled. We have many masons who could never gain admission if they were obliged to be candidates again, but who could not be suspended or expelled. If, after a candidate receives the Mark degree, it is discovered and proved to the Chapter that he is such a man as ought not to have been admitted, we would stop his advancement, even if there are not sufficient grounds for expelling him."

With regard to the situation in Quebec, Comp. Drummond has no hesitation in condemning the action of the Grand Mark Lodge of England :—

“ We have no words to express our surprise and grief at this action of the Grand Mark Lodge of England. It is but a few years since that this Grand Body was almost unknown in the masonic world. The Mark degree is no part of the Chapter system in England, and, in consequence, the bodies conferring that degree were regarded with an indifference almost amounting to contempt. It had much the same position in England that the *quasi* masonic bodies outside of the York and Scottish Rites have in this country. Under these circumstances, it applied for recognition by the General Grand Chapter and Grand Chapters in this country. Investigation showed that it had control of the Mark degree, and had been regularly organized. As the Mark degree was a part of our system, it was recognized by the General Grand Chapter, but only against most earnest opposition. The recognitions in this country gave it a standing at home and abroad, and its growth has been very great. And now those of us who labored so earnestly to secure its recognition have the intense mortification to find that the predictions of our opponents, which we then scouted at, have proved true. Utterly disregarding the American law of exclusive jurisdiction, she has planted subordinates in the jurisdiction of one of our American Grand Chapters, and disturbed the peace of the masonic world. We are informed by a Vermont Companion, and believe it to be true, that the malcontents have gone to that degree of unmasonic conduct, that they have carried masonic matters into the civil courts by an action at law against the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Quebec.

Of course our Grand Chapter and the General Grand Chapter will sustain the Grand Chapter of Quebec. This blow at the integrity of our system comes from an unexpected quarter—from the body which we had supposed was so strongly attached to our Grand Chapters that it would avoid giving offence or interfering in our matters, even at the expense of considerable sacrifice. It was, we supposed, the special ally of our system in England. It has reason to be so. But we will not pursue the subject further ; we have already erased much of what we had written, for fear that it was written more in anger than in sorrow ; but the fact is, our feelings are more of surprise and mortification.”

The latest statistics of this branch of the Craft are embodied in the following table :—

GRAND CHAPTERS.	Members.	Exaltations.	Admissions and Restorations.	Dimissions.	Expulsions.	Suspensions.	Sus. for Non- payment of dues.	Deaths.
Alabama.	733	38	14	19	0	0	23	11
Arkansas.	1,240	101	25	24	0	0	35	26
California.	3,552	496	105	112	1	0	32	64
Canada.	3,435	202	27	98	1	....	*125	38
Colorado.	642	118	27	16	0	0	14	3
Connecticut.	4,027	185	19	16	1	1	38	63
Delaware.	343	25	2	3	1	....	8	1
District of Columbia.	1,121	84	27	26	0	0	44	15
Florida.	191	17	....	5	....	....	....	....
Georgia.	883	56	18	36	0	....	*33	17
Illinois.	11,260	1,264	292	370	13	....	*201	119
Indiana.	4,551	474	54	135	3	4	104	57
Iowa.	5,413	730	154	201	2	....	*99	37
Kansas.	2,196	371	76	85	1	....	*17	20
Kentucky.	2,514	141	29	100	0	....	*83	35
Louisiana.	800	25	12	10	1	3	21	24
Maine.	4,107	224	35	61	1	0	80	50
Maryland.	1,132	67	10	26	0	....	*10	22
Massachusetts.	9,196	514	....	116	0	291	20	105
Michigan.	7,625	611	93	228	3	4	107	81
Minnesota.	2,228	330	43	93	2	5	21	28
Mississippi.	1,391	70	21	31	0	4	59	14
Missouri.	4,600	526	97	141	0	3	75	44
Nebraska.	1,047	107	53	26	0	....	*9	10
Nevada †.	412	29	15	27	0	0	5	5
New Hampshire.	2,279	105	146	35	0	0	23	29
New Jersey.	2,355	157	35	57	1	12	51	24
New York.	15,159	949	239	297	3	0	582	206
North Carolina.	826	13	2	3	2	....	*7	7
Nova Scotia.	455	23	10	10	0	0	0	3
Ohio.	9,567	999	272	246	8	....	*255	126
Oregon.	651	75	16	15	1	0	11	10
Pennsylvania.	10,044	493	32	132	3	....	*223	119
Quebec.	431	31	12	19	0	....	4	8
Rhode Island †.	1,634	26	....	....	....	....	....	1
South Carolina.	369	13	0	7	0	1	8	2
Tennessee.	2,378	92	29	33	1	12	*32	25
Texas.	3,406	268	82	121	5	....	*72	62
Vermont.	1,977	62	8	16	0	....	*7	22
Virginia.	1,791	61	20	37	0	....	*21	15
West Virginia.	482	30	13	16	0	0	16	6
Wisconsin.	3,420	274	25	73	1	....	*30	32
General Grand Chapter..	934	81	23	20	0	....	*17	8
	132737	10557	2202	3142	55	340	2625	1594

*Including all suspensions. †Same as last year.

"The figures for Nevada and Rhode Island are the same as given in our report of last year, as we have no later advices.

Those from some other jurisdictions are not as accurate as is desirable, because in some cases an estimate of the membership of Chapters not making returns is included, and in other cases it is not.

The total Membership is 132,737 against 128,557 in 1882, and 127,105 in 1881; the Exaltations are 10,557 against 7,424 in 1882, and 6,733 in 1881; the Admissions and Restorations are 2,202 against 1,868 in 1882, and 1,900 in 1881; the Dimissions are 3,142 against 2,818 in 1882, and 3,073 in 1881; the Expulsions are 55 against 75 in 1882 and 85 in 1881; the Suspensions (including suspensions from membership) are 2,625 against 2,859 in 1882, and 3,762 in 1881; and the Deaths are 1,594 against 1,633 in 1882, and 1,496 in 1881.

The conclusion of the able report of Comp. Drummond is very good :

"The questions of non-affiliation and non-payment of dues have been more generally discussed than heretofore. We are obliged to admit that the tendency is towards making affiliation and payment of dues the test of masonic standing. It is proposed to ignore 'the original plan of Masonry,' and compel every Royal Arch Mason to be a member of both Chapter and Lodge, or lose his masonic character. In some jurisdictions, and we believe in our own, the old law will be maintained, and in a short time this fury in favor of modern methods and ideas will have wasted itself, and Masonry, as it came to us from the fathers, will be revived.

We have heretofore called attention to the fact that in Maine and those jurisdictions in which the milder system prevails, the delinquencies are less numerous than in other jurisdictions; this fact, however, has been denied, and, in proof of the denial, the party cites the fact that in Maine in the year ending March 31, 1882, the suspensions from membership were 40 for each thousand of the total membership. The unfairness of taking a single year is apparent; but when it is known that in that very pamphlet (Proceedings of 1882) the statistics for the ten preceding years were given, showing an average of $8\frac{1}{2}$ in each thousand, the unfairness of the test and the weakness of the denial are much more apparent.

In the history of a Pennsylvania Lodge recently published we find that *twenty per cent.* of all who were ever members were suspended for non-payment of dues; and only a little over one per cent. of those suspended were ever re-instated, and one-third of the re-instated were again suspended!

We believe that the severe policy in relation to payment of dues is not the wisest. Men, and especially masons, are more readily moved by appeals to their sense of honor than by appeals to force. 'Pay your dues, or be suspended,' is not exactly according to the teachings of Masonry. But the fever must be allowed to run; in time it will turn, and the patient recover health."

The question as to the propriety of the dispensation issued by the Grand High Priest to join in the observance of Memorial Day was referred by the Grand Chapter to the Committee on Jurisprudence, to the end that some regulation should be established governing the appearance of Royal Arch Masons in public. Subsequently, this committee was granted till next year to report on the subject of public processions.

Comp. Drummond offered the following, which was adopted as a standing regulation :—

“Resolved, That no Royal Arch Mason shall sell, offer for sale, buy or aid in circulating any printed document or cipher, as a ritual of Royal Arch Masonry. Any one so offending shall be liable to discipline, and may be expelled.

All Royal Arch Masons are strictly enjoined to bring to the notice of their Chapter all violations of this regulation which may come to their knowledge, for the action of such Chapter.”

M. E. Comp. Frank E. Sleeper, (Sabatis) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Ira Berry, (Portland) G. S.

MARYLAND.

The 86th Convocation was held at Baltimore, November 13th, 1883.

M. E. Comp. C. V. S. Levy, G. H. P., is one of those who believe that the dispensing power should not be used too freely, and also that :—

“That high prerogative is vested in the Grand High Priest to be used only in cases of genuine emergency, to prevent some real hardship or to achieve some decided good, and then only in the interest of the Order, and and in such case it should be granted without money and without price. I do not believe that a Grand Chapter should authorize dispensations to act hastily upon applications for a monetary consideration, nor should any dispensation be granted as a marketable commodity or a purchasable favor to an individual or Chapter.

It has been customary in this jurisdiction for the Grand High Priest in issuing a dispensation to attach the seal of the Grand Chapter and have the same attested by the Grand Secretary. This is not necessary, oftentimes inconvenient, and not strictly proper, as the dispensation is the act of the Grand High Priest as such and not the act of the Grand Chapter. I therefore suggest that a seal be procured to be known as the Grand High Priest's official seal, to be used by him in lieu of the Grand Chapter seal as now used.

(This seal should contain the words “Grand High Priest, Maryland,” and I herewith exhibit specimens of the kind used in other jurisdictions.)”

By a standing resolution, the commissions of all their Grand Representatives expired at the time of the last convocation of the General Grand Chapter. It therefore became his duty to appoint anew, which he did, the new commissions to last for three years. R. E. Comp. J. G. Burns still remains as their Grand Representative here.

We cordially endorse the following remarks :—

“My attention was called by St. John's Chapter, No. 19, to certain publications in the newspapers. I took such action in the matter as seemed to me proper, and there are now no complaints upon that subject. The prosperity of Masonry does not require that it should be “written up,” nor need she advertise for proposals. Those who would advance in her mysteries and be exalted to her sublime degrees should enter her mystic

portals unsought and *voluntarily* bow at her holy altar and worship at her sacred shrine. Such only make Companions good and true, bright and steadfast. Masonry only wants men who will be true to the tenets of the order, men, who desiring to lead pure lives themselves, from unselfish motives, are willing to unite with pure minded men in an organization that seeks, to make mankind wiser, happier and better ; men who will cultivate friendship as a virtue and a pleasure, and who, under all circumstances, in adversity as well as in prosperity, in poverty as well as in affluence, in sickness as well as in health, in affliction as well as in joy, will be true friends to those who are themselves true and worthy."

Comp. Levy thinks that the position assumed by the Grand Mark Lodge of England in Quebec is wholly untenable and impossible to justify.

The 12 Chapters in Maryland are all working and peace prevails. The Grand Lecturer visited all save one.

Comp. E. T. Schultz again reports on correspondence and gives us a good notice. In his review of Maine we find the following :—

"He granted a dispensation to a Chapter to join with a G. A. R. Post in the observance of 'Memorial Day.' He first wrote a letter declining the request, but subsequently wrote another granting the request. First impressions are generally the best ; in this case we think they were eminently so. We think the Grand High Priest committed a grave error. He excuses himself by saying. 'the Grand Lodge, at its last annual meeting, partly opened the door by granting a similar request.'"

In the same review he gives some further historical facts :—

"If any further evidence was needed than we gave last year, the preamble above quoted would settle the matter beyond a reasonable doubt that a Grand Chapter had existed previous to the year 1806, and the other evidence fixes the year 1797 as the date of its formation.

It is certain that the Chapters of this jurisdiction were *never* 'under the government of the Grand Lodge.' The written records of the Grand Lodge from the first Convention held at Talbot Court House in 1783 are complete, and there is not a word in them to show that the Chapters were in any way whatever connected with the Grand Lodge. The Chapters, it is true, were held under the sanction of the Subordinate Lodges, as were all Chapters in those days, and were known by the name of the particular lodge to which they were attached.

The Grand Chapter organized in 1797, re-organized in 1807, and revived in 1814, was formed as all Grand Chapters are now formed, by the representatives of Subordinate Chapters in convention assembled, and was as regularly and legally formed as any Grand Chapter of that day or since.

That it was a "Sovereign Grand Chapter" is fully proven by the fact that it granted *dispensations to Chapters* in 1797, and "acknowledged and confirmed" them in 1807.

Companion Drummond says : 'The General Grand Chapter was the first independent Grand Chapter that existed.' This body (the General Grand Chapter) was formed January 25th, 1798. The Grand Chapter of Maryland was formed, as we have seen, seven months previously ; we have also seen that it exercised '*sovereign*' powers '*independent*' of any other

authority. We trust that Companion Drummond is now convinced that a Grand Chapter *did exist* in Maryland in 1797 and 1806."

M. E. Comp. George W. Sheive, (Baltimore) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. George L. McCahan, (Baltimore) G. S.

MASSACHUSETTS.

The 83rd Convocation was held at Boston, Dec. 11, 1883.

The first day was spent in the exemplification of the work in all the degrees. The General Grand High Priest, M. E. Comp. Alfred F. Chapman, was present and received all the honors due to his exalted position.

The following report and resolution of a special committee were unanimously adopted:—

"Your Committee to whom was referred the proclamation of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, declaring all Masonic intercourse to be suspended between it and the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, respectfully report that we have carefully examined the edict of non-intercourse, together with the correspondence, which has been placed in our hands, relating to the subject. And as the facts in the case are clearly and correctly stated in the proclamation issued by the Grand Z., M. E. H. L. Robinson, we recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England Wales, etc., in granting warrants to form Lodges of Mark Master Masons at Montreal, within the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, which has already resulted in the formation of two Lodges and a Provincial Grand Lodge within the territory of said Grand Chapter, and that, too, after the Grand Lodge of England and Wales had unconditionally and fraternally recognized the Grand Chapter of Quebec, is justly chargeable with a breach of Masonic comity, and with violating the well-established law and usage of American Freemasonry relating to jurisdictional rights. We therefore earnestly and fraternally entreat our brothers of England and Wales to take immediate measures to remove existing causes for complaint and discord, and thus promote harmony among the members of our beloved Fraternity in Canada."

The address of the Grand High Priest, Comp. Albert C. Smith, bears marks of great ability. The extracts we have made will be found both interesting and instructive and are well worthy of attention:—

"The year which now lies behind us has been one of prosperity and advancement. In a State numbering some seventy Subordinate Bodies, we cannot expect to find that each and all have been constantly adding to their numbers, while we must anticipate that questions will occasionally arise calling for no little diplomatic tact and wisdom on the part of the Grand Officers. The District Deputy Grand High Priests, whose report accompany my own, during their annual official visitations have found most of the Chapters in the enjoyment of peace and prosperity; and the causes which have retarded the progress of others will be noted hereafter." * * *

"In my visits to the different Chapters strewn through the Commonwealth, I have been more and more impressed by the noble and beneficent characteristics of Capitular Masonry. And in a corresponding degree it has

been impressed upon my mind that our standard of membership should be more exalted.

I have wished from my heart that our Chapters might be in soul and spirit, in fact and in deed, all that they profess in the Ritual. It is a species of mockery to *say* a thing, and then not *do* it. In the great body of Capitular Masonry there sometimes appears to be no little hollow formality, a taint of hypocrisy. I do not mean that we loudly profess one thing while we willingly practice another. Our members do not proclaim virtues in which they have no part. But, my Companions, we are all human. Opportunities for improvement are around us on every hand. Only let us see to it that we live squarely up to the doctrine which as Masons we profess, then we shall have reached a plane of social and moral life as pure and as good as it is to be expected in this world. Let us raise the standard of our membership still higher. Let us make our Chapters most excellent in fact no less than in name. Let us so conduct our Convocations that the call to attend them shall be to the members a note of joy. And when we have assembled, let us so act our parts that we can close the labors of the night and depart for our homes with the feeling that we have been made better men and truer Masons by the happy hours we have spent together.

Quality and not quantity is the standard which should rule in the selection of new members. No strong, healthy, harmonious Chapter can otherwise exist. Let your accepted candidates be only men of sterling worth. Ask of a man, 'Is he good and true?' 'Will he keep the faith?' 'Is he strong in his manhood?' 'Is his heart right?' If he is uncorrupt at heart uncompromising in integrity, by nature faithful, little more need be asked. But be sure that he is all this. Remember that an assembly small in numbers, but knit together by the bonds of love and good will and an unfaltering trust in one another, is of far greater worth than a body swollen with numbers, but lacking the great vital principle of truth and sincerity.

Allow me to call your attention to the important subject of attendance upon the regular meetings of the Subordinate Chapters. There are Chapters in this jurisdiction showing a large membership on the rolls which are nevertheless weak in those who regularly attend the meetings and share in the work. This should not be, and when it is the case there is fault somewhere; and perhaps investigation would show that the fault is not entirely and always on the part of the absentees. If those members of the Chapter who habitually attend its sessions do all they can to make the meetings pleasant and profitable, if they work to the best of their knowledge and ability, and strive by all means to make a good Chapter, *then* the delinquents are alone blameworthy. Personal observation leads me to think that the non-attendance of members is more the result of carelessness and inattention than of wilful neglect. Nevertheless the slight is one which must eventually result in great injury to the Chapter. The man who cares so little for his Masonic affiliation that he will not give to the institution the light of his countenance for one poor evening of the month, in return for all the golden opportunities proffered to him by his Chapter or his Lodge, the man who esteems his Masonic principles so meanly, has no moral right to the Masonic name. Yet, let the hour of dire calamity come to that man, and the fair-weather friends drop from around him, and you will find him knocking at the door with loud demands for brotherly help!

Let not the man who still neglects his Lodge
When sunshine shines, and all is with him well,
With cries for aid turn round in shifty dodge,
When tempests rage and floods around him swell.

But let us turn to pleasanter thoughts and brighter pictures. Suppose that with the opening of the New Year every Royal Arch Mason in Massachusetts would regard his attendance upon the Convocations of his Chapter as a sacred duty from which only events beyond his control or claims of the extremest urgency could absolve him. Suppose that during the entire year to come every affiliated Royal Arch Mason in the Commonwealth would faithfully and punctually attend every meeting of his Chapter. What a new era of interest, energy, and satisfaction would at once dawn upon us ! Is not such a result worth striving for ? And how simple and easy its accomplishment. It is only requisite that each Companion do his individual duty."

Emphatically the best report on correspondence of this year is that of Comp. John W. Dadmun. We feel compelled to refrain from comments on the various subjects upon which he discourses, as our views so nearly coincide with his, and he generally covers the ground so completely that nothing is left for us to do, save to copy as he writes. At the commencement of his report, he gives a summary of his views on the important subject of Masonic discipline for non-payment of dues, chiefly in reply to Comp. Warren, of Nebraska :—

"SUSPENSION FROM MEMBERSHIP ; ITS EFFECT."

"Some Masonic writers seem to think that the term 'suspension from membership' is an unfortunate one. But why unfortunate ? It is only another term for conditional or temporary *forfeiture* of membership. To be discharged or stricken from the roll implies absolute and unconditional forfeiture, so that if the delinquent ever again obtains membership he must begin *de novo*. In temporary forfeiture the severance is not complete, his Lodge rights being held in abeyance. What other term, then, could we use to express that relation unless it be *membership in abeyance* ? And yet, according to Webster, abeyance means 'suspension or temporary extinction.'

Then, again, the term 'suspension' is often qualified or limited in its meaning and effect, and it is sometimes qualified in Masonry. A 'suspended Mason' is one whose rights, as a Mason, are suspended. A suspended officer is one whose official rights are suspended. When a charter is suspended, all the rights and privileges of the members to assemble and make Masons are suspended. When a member of a Lodge is suspended from membership, all his *Lodge* rights and privileges are suspended. The latter does not include *all* Masonic rights, unless so determined by statute. Massachusetts, Maine, Iowa, and some other jurisdictions, have decided that suspension of membership shall be limited to *membership* rights, according to old Masonic usage. All of the above are *bona fide*—in reality—suspensions, and are so recognized by the best Masonic authority. This naturally grows out of the fact that there are general Masonic rights, special official rights, collective charter rights, and local membership rights.

Having defined the terms, we now call attention to

THE LEGAL ASPECT OF THE QUESTION.

The 'effect' given to any penalty by the rightful supreme authority must determine the legal character and standing of the person on whom the penalty has been inflicted. In other words, the *status* of one under discipline must be determined by the jurisdiction to which he owes

allegiance. This proposition is true in all associations under a constitutional government, and it shows why there may be a want of uniformity as to discipline in Masonic governments. Our Grand Bodies are supreme in the states where they are established, particularly our Grand Lodges. As to the "effect of suspension from membership," note the difference between Massachusetts and Nebraska. Massachusetts defines the effect to be suspension of Lodge rights and privileges *only*. Our constitution says, "his (delinquent's) more general privileges as a Mason still remain unimpaired. He may visit other lodges, or seek Masonic relief through other channels, his claims upon the charities of his own lodge being held in abeyance. He is a *quasi* member, without any of the privileges or benefits of membership." In other words, his membership in the FRATERNITY, acquired by initiation, is not forfeited thereby.

The Supreme Masonic authority of Nebraska declares the effect to be suspension from *all Masonic rights*; and, therefore, one suspended from membership is not in good standing in any sense. He has no right to visit any Masonic body, nor can he seek relief through any Masonic channel; he is a "suspended Mason" to all intents and purposes. What a difference in "effect"! And which jurisdiction conforms to old Masonic usage? To decide this question we will look at the subject in

THE LIGHT OF ANCIENT MASONIC USAGE.

We have collected some interesting facts from the constitutions and by-laws of Masonic bodies in Europe and America, which bear directly and conclusively upon this point.

We quote the following article from the records of Royal Cumberland Lodge, Bath, England, dated 1746, and headed:

'BY-LAWS OF YE LODGE OF YE BEAR.'

'A member who absents himself four months without appearing to the Lodge, or sending a good reason for so doing, together with the money he owes the Lodge, is to be looked upon as a *visitor* when he comes to the Lodge, and his name to be struck out of the list of members and inserted only as a visitor.'

This shows that forfeiture of membership did not mean forfeiture of all Masonic rights, nor did it deprive the delinquent of the privilege of visiting his brethren in Lodge assembled.

We quote again from the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, dated 1774, as follows:—

'No brother shall be suspended for non-payment of dues to a Lodge, but a Lodge shall have the power of striking off its roll of members any member more than twelve months in arrears of dues, provided that at least three months previously application in writing for such arrears shall have been sent by registered letter to the member, intimating that in the event of his non-payment his name will be removed from the roll of members.'

Will some correspondent 'mile' if we can trace this Masonic usage back for over a *hundred and fifty years*? Well, here it is, in a manuscript folio volume of records, safely deposited in the archives of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. The regulations or by-laws were (to use the exact language written) 'unanimously voted and agreed upon by brethren of the first constituted Lodge in Boston, New England, at their meeting, Oct. 24, 1733.' The one relating to deprivation of membership for non-payment of dues reads thus:—

'Every member that does not pay his Quarterage on the first Lodge night

of the Quarter, or on the second at farthest (if present), shall be excluded from being a member, and all privilege of the Lodge.'

So much for the records of St. John's Lodge. Perhaps it is sufficient to add, that the by-laws of Massachusetts Lodge, Boston, dated 1770, and those of Portland Lodge, Maine, dated 1769, agree, substantially, with all we have quoted ; and that is, and always has been, the law and usage of the Grand Lodge of this State.

THE CHARITABLE ASPECT OF THE SUBJECT.

We must not follow too closely the rules of civil courts and civil justice in the government of a moral and charitable brotherhood. As Comp. Gurney has well said, "We should write (and act) from a fraternal standpoint, rather than from legal dictums gathered from Blackstone and Chitty." Strict justice knows no charity, makes no allowance for "covering the faults and foibles of our brethren," as we have been taught to do in the ritual of our sublime institution.

There is a great deal of uncharitable legislation in our day, such as depriving voluntary unaffiliated Masons of good standing, for no crime, and that, too, without trial ; depriving a Companion of Chapter membership for voluntary unaffiliation in the Blue Lodge ; suspending a brother from *all Masonic rights* for failure to pay a few dollars of annual dues, without trial. It is harsh, unkind, and uncharitable ; contrary to the true spirit of a brotherhood founded upon the law of love and good-will to men. It is going back to *legal* Judaism, which enacted "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth," and damned every one outside of its own communion.

Just here we will correct a grave mistake into which some Masonic writers have fallen by representing that Massachusetts claims the right of visitation for all Masons in good standing *agreeably to her laws*. This is a mere inference that is wholly unwarrantable. All agree that the right of visitation is not absolute under all circumstances ; but the right to brotherly kindness and assistance, if needed, is absolute. Status at home is status abroad for all Masons in good standing and not under discipline for un-Masonic conduct. This must be true, or the universality of Freemasonry a myth. Every Grand Lodge may adopt any measures it pleases to ascertain the good standing of a visitor, *provided* those measures do not conflict with a Mason's obligations. The pledges are mutual ; and a Grand Lodge has no more right to ignore or violate them than has the humblest brother in the Fraternity. All the esoteric work of our association is based upon the principle of *unity* ; which, we are sorry to say, is too often violated by Grand Bodies, as well as by individuals. Therefore there should be no *local* laws that will deprive a worthy brother of his general or special Masonic rights. Jesurun had no right to "kick" because he "waxed fat" ; neither had he a right to "forsake God and lightly esteem the Rock of his Salvation." We should not "kick" because we are "waxing fat," wealthy, and numerous. "Let brotherly love continue."

Comp. Warren has inadvertently misrepresented Massachusetts by saying (pp. 1167, 1168) :—

'But when they insist that their members who are suspended from membership are in good standing, and hence have the right to visit in our Chapters, as have all Masons in good standing, we dissent.'

Our answer to this is that we make no such claim as the 'right to visit' ; and that we have repeatedly said so in former reports. Will Comp. Warren make the *amende honorable* ?

What, then, is the effect of suspension from membership? It is (in Massachusetts) conditional forfeiture of Lodge rights and privileges. 'Striking from the roll' implies unconditional forfeiture. If other jurisdictions choose to suspend from all Masonic rights for non-payment of dues, giving the delinquent the right of absolute restoration, by simply paying arrearages, they have the right to do so. Time will prove which system of discipline is the most effective."

He gives our proceedings of 1883 a very good notice. After several extracts, he says :—

"We fully indorse the above because it is according to the oldest and best Masonic usage. We would devote more time and space to this sister jurisdiction, but it would only be to commend the broad and fraternal spirit everywhere evinced in its transactions."

On the use of the words "Fraternity" and "Order," he says :—

"We think that *Fraternity* is more euphonious, and more in keeping with the objects and principles of *Speculative* Masonry. 'Order,' however, is justified by usage. 'Freemasonry,' says a learned foreign author, 'is a moral Order, instituted by virtuous men,' etc. This arises partly from the fact that our Fraternity originated in *Operative* Masonry, which was composed by builders who were skilled in *orders* of architecture. We still use their tools and implements as symbols to illustrate and enforce the moral, religious, and social duties of life; and claim to be a reorganization of the Order."

He thinks that unfriendly legislation affecting the status of Masons in other jurisdictions should be avoided. He likes the term "*privilege* of visitation," as there can be no *absolute right* to visit.

He gives their practice when objections are made after a clear ballot :—

"In Massachusetts we issue a notice to all members, giving the names, occupation, and location of all applicants for the degrees; and after a clear ballot, if any member objects he must state his reasons for so doing to a committee appointed for that purpose. On their report the Lodge or Chapter decides the validity thereof. Under this rule it has been demonstrated that a large majority of objections are frivolous and unmasonic."

In his review of Maine, he says :—

"Now when we first entered the Masonic Fraternity, the Grand Master was the Grand Lodge at all times when that body was not in session; and he could do almost anything that a Grand Lodge could do,—suspend a Mason for unmasonic conduct, make Masons at sight, and many other things, by the authority of the ancient Constitutions. But within our Masonic life those powers, although recognized in the Constitution, at least the former, have been limited by usage. In relation to discipline, the Grand Lodge has established a standing trial commission to which any aggrieved brother can appeal for redress. Then again, the right of subordinate Lodges to make Masons is so clearly defined that a Grand Master would not dare to make Masons except within and by the consent of the Grand Lodge. We will make one or two quotations from our Digest of Masonic Law :—

‘It is doubtful whether the Craft in this Commonwealth would sustain a Grand Master in the exercise of the prerogative to make Masons at sight unless it was apparent that an absolute necessity existed therefor, and not then unless the making was in a regularly organized Lodge, and according to the forms and ceremonies required by our ritual.’ (Opinion of Grand Master Gardner, 1871.)

We next quote from Digest the opinion of C. W. Moore :—

‘One of the early books of Constitutions reserved the right to the Grand Lodge and the Grand Master, when the Grand Lodge is duly assembled, to make Masons at sight ; but *does not authorize the Grand Master himself, nor by virtue of the presence of any given number of brothers, to make Masons at all.* (Italics our own.)

‘The power of a Grand Master to make a Mason at sight (if exercised at all) must be exercised in Grand Lodge, duly assembled, and after due inquiry into his character and notice to the members.’

We quote again to show that a Grand Master cannot suspend a Mason, as Comp. Drummond says, without giving him an opportunity to be heard in his own defence :—

‘A grand Master may suspend from office, for grossly intemperate habits, the Master of a Lodge, and summon him to appear at the next Communication of the Grand Lodge, to show cause why he should not be dealt with according to the regulations and usages in such cases established.’

The case we cited in our last report, which occurred under the administration of Grand Master Nickason, was according to the above regulation, and is about as far as a Grand Master can go without violating the usage of this jurisdiction, except, of course, in cases of contempt. Now we think that Comp. Drummond will concede as to *usage*, that this is a modification of the ‘old idea,’ and that is all we ever intended to convey. Comp. Patton misrepresents us when he states that we claim a Grand Master has no power to suspend a Mason.”

His remarks in closing his notice of Quebec have our hearty approval :—

“But the worst of all is, this professed *Masonic* Body—the Grand Mark Lodge of England, etc.—now threatens to test this question in the civil courts. A demand for the withdrawal of the proclamation of non-intercourse has been made, accompanied with a threat that legal proceedings will be instituted if it is not complied with. No language can adequately express our grief and disgust at such a course of procedure. Masonic jurisprudence must settle this question ; and any appeal to civil courts will result in swift Masonic death, at least on this continent, to the body that makes it.”

M. E. Comp. Albert C. Smith, (Boston,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Zeph. H. Thomas, (Cambridge,) G. S.

MICHIGAN.

The 35th Convocation was held at Detroit, January 15th, 1884.

M. E. Comp. George Hill, G. H. P., reports an unusual amount of work in the Chapters. Three new Chapters received dispensations. He arrested the charter of one Chapter for a wilful violation of the Constitution in trespassing upon the

jurisdiction of another Chapter. On their Grand Visitor and Lecturer, he says :—

“This is the eleventh officer in our list of Grand Officers, but not the eleventh in point of usefulness to the Craft. The Grand Chapter makes him the custodian of the secret or unwritten work of the Royal Craft. The time was when that officer was required to perform a certain amount of labor (in visiting and instructing the Chapters in the work of the several degrees), and received a salary therefor. At the session of the Grand Chapter in 1875 the salary of the G. V. and L. was abolished, for what was then good and sufficient reasons. Since which time that officer has visited such Chapters only as request his visits or by direction of the Grand High Priest. As a result very few visits have been made, and to-day this Grand Chapter is comparatively ignorant of the work done by its subordinates. Do the reasons of 1875 still exist? If so, continue the plan; if not, ought not some steps be taken to make this office of more value to the subordinate Chapters? I recommend the subject to your consideration.”

On the same subject, the following report was adopted :—

“The Committee understand that but two Chapters in this Grand Jurisdiction have required the services of the Grand Visitor and Lecturer during the past year. And the M. E. Grand High Priest in his address states that the past year has been one of great prosperity to the Royal Craft in Michigan. Under such a favorable showing your committee do not see any reason why this Grand Body should pay any stated salary to any companion as Grand Visitor and Lecturer, but would respectfully recommend that whenever any Chapter requires any instruction from the Grand Visitor and Lecturer, said Chapter shall request him to visit them at his earliest convenience and at the expense of the Chapter making the request. We would further recommend that the pay for such services shall be the same mileage and per diem as is paid to the representatives attending this Grand Chapter.”

A large amount of local business was transacted.

The Grand Secretary has an extensive report on correspondence, covering 187 pages, in which Canada for 1883 receives due notice.

M. E. Comp. Theron F. Giddings, (Kalamazoo,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. William P. Innes, (Grand Rapids,) G. S.

NEVADA.

The ninth Convocation was held at Virginia, June 12th, 1882.
M. E. Comp. Frank Bell, G. H. P.

On the condition of the craft, he says :—

“No discord or contentions have arisen among the Craft. No grievances have been presented. Peace and harmony prevail, not only at home, but with all jurisdictions with which we are in correspondence.

This year, like the last, has been one of great depression in business matters throughout the jurisdiction, yet the condition of the Royal Craft has been prosperous. We have lost many members by removal, but new material coming in has kept our roll up in numbers.

I have had the pleasure of visiting a number of the Chapters in the

State, and find them reasonably prosperous, the officers and members taking great interest, and the degrees conferred in a very creditable manner—particularly so in Nos. 1 and 2. I had hoped to have had the pleasure of visiting every Chapter in the State, but a change in my business made this impossible. No one can regret this inability more than I do.”

It was resolved that in view of the financial condition of the Grand Chapter, the report on correspondence should not be printed until further ordered.

Among the Grand Representatives introduced we notice the name of Comp. Samuel W. Coubbuck, from Canada.

The 10th Convocation was held at Virginia, June 11th, 1883.

M. E. Comp. William Timson, the Grand High Priest, was not present, owing to severe sickness. The Deputy Grand High Priest was also absent, through pressure of his business engagements. The Grand King therefore presided.

One new Chapter was formed.

The business was entirely local.

The report on correspondence is by Comp. John D. Hammond, and notices Canada for 1881 and 1882. In his review of Maine, under the question of suspension, he says—

“The Maine Reports fairly bristle with points, and so provokingly invite argument that we can hardly keep hands off. Companion Drummond is withal so courteous a disputant, giving and taking with equal relish, that the pleasure of contest is largely increased. His favorite dogma is that suspension for N. P. D. is not actual suspension for actual wrong, but a sort of purgatorial twilight, midway between light and darkness. Not to misrepresent, we quote his premises:—

1. Any Grand Chapter has the right and power to determine what penalty shall be inflicted for non-payment of dues within its jurisdiction.

2. If it prescribes or allows suspension or expulsion *from all Masonic rights*, and that penalty is inflicted, it has the same effect as if inflicted for any other cause.

3. If it limits the punishment to non-affiliation, and declares that the party thus non-affiliated is in good standing, but limited in his choice of Chapters to which he can apply for membership to the one which non-affiliated him, this disability is the only one he labors under, and his *status* as fixed by his Grand Chapter is his *status* everywhere.

We agree, except as to the last clause which, to our mind, is a *non sequiter*. If Maine chuses to create a nondescript, having neither membership nor honorable limit, if, further, she ordains that this nondescript shall be a welcome guest in Chapter hall and at banquet board, who shall gainsay her right so to do; but to affirm that other jurisdictions are bound to recognize this special creation within their own bounds is carrying the doctrine of home *status* to unwarranted lengths, at least so it seems to us. We are in duty bound to give honor to the king, but why should we honor the king's clown when our own is in merited disgrace? Companion D. has been constantly assuming that his method of *waist* suspension produced the best results, and that the statistics sustain the statement. We had begun to look into the matter a little, when our eye caught Companion Patton's last report (p. 132), where it is clearly shown

that the other ox is the *hornee*, and that too by Companion Drummond's own statistics, everywhere recognized as *par excellence*. We wait a proper time with some *impatience* to hear the reply from Maine."

He has a great veneration for landmarks, but thinks that the world moves for all that. Masonry moves too, and sometimes old customs are mistaken for landmarks. These customs, when useless or nonsensical, must go, and we are gradually eliminating the worthless, but some worthy brethren are apt to cling with a mistaken veneration to almost everything that savors of the antique. So it is genuinely refreshing to come across such pertinent and sensible remarks as these:—

"Isn't it about time for some one to intimate that Masonry is a *progressive* science? We have the greatest veneration for landmarks, but not every old custom is a landmark. A *landmark* is a mountain range, while local customs are but the vegetation that grows upon it. The assumption of some is that in the old days there was a universally recognized method of procedure from which the present has sadly degenerated, but such is not the case. Masonry in 1820, in these United States, was more provincial than it is in 1883, and there was then as now a longing for the old days. Even the Antient Charges of 1721 contain something very like a wail about the departure from the customs of the "ancient times." Time was in good old Maine (*vide* Drummond's History) when every visiting Brother was charged the sum of twenty-five cents, and no season tickets allowed. It was a very useful regulation in its time, but we don't believe that the hospitality of the Pine-tree State is to-day measured by a half shekel of silver. With all our latitude regarding jots and tittles, Companion Schultz, we are as *old fogey* as you could desire when it comes to the weightier parts of the law, as so we know, is Companion Caswell."

M. E. Comp. Chauncey N. Noteware, (Carson,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. John D. Hammond, (Carson, G. S.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

The sixty-fifth annual Convocation was held at Concord, May 15th, 1883.

In the address of the Grand High Priest, Comp. Charles N. Towle, we find a congratulatory paragraph on the favorable condition of Royal Arch Masonry throughout this jurisdiction. They have had a year of continued prosperity, their finances are in a sound and healthy condition, and they have added 69 to their membership.

On life membership, he says:—

"The life membership of this Grand Chapter, as fixed by its General Regulations, numbers at the present time twenty-five. Of this number several are well advanced in years, and six have removed from the jurisdiction. Consequently the attendance of permanent members at these convocations is necessarily very limited, while its membership is not likely to be materially increased in a long course of years.

I therefore recommend the adoption of an amendment to our Regulations, making them conform to the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter; whereby all Past High Priests of Royal Arch Chapters in this jurisdiction shall become permanent members of this Grand Body."

He made three decisions :—

" 1st. An application for the degrees having been received by a Chapter and referred to a committee for investigation, it would be irregular for the committee to report recommending the withdrawal of the petition.

2d. A petition cannot be withdrawn, unless it shall appear that the Chapter has not jurisdiction over the petitioner, but must be submitted to a ballot.

3d. No companion can be appointed an officer of a Chapter (except *pro tem.*) unless he be a member of such Chapter, the Tyler alone excepted."

He recommends that suitable compensation should be provided for the Committee on Correspondence, "Not only as an act of justice to them, but also as an acknowledgement of our appreciation of the careful, painstaking and signal ability which has always been displayed in this department."

The Grand Chapter decided against the proposition to make all Past High Priests permanent members, but referred the matter to a committee to report at the next annual Convocation, and at the same time passed a resolution that they are permanent members already. This sounds a little mixed, but it is just as the proceedings state.

Comp. A. S. Wait has a very good report on correspondence, in which he notices Canada for 1882.

He is in favor of our practice of declaring that an unfavorable report is equivalent to a rejection, and that after such a report, a ballot is unnecessary.

He states that the doctrine which requires membership in a Lodge as prerequisite to membership in the Chapter is not in force in New Hampshire, and that he has not been able to see the force of the reasoning on which such doctrine is founded.

On the subject of objections after a clear ballot, he says :—

"Upon this subject our own view is, and we think it one best supported by both authority and reason, that, after a ballot and before a degree has been conferred, any companion has the unqualified right of objection, and may not be required to disclose his reasons, but after a degree has been conferred the case stands differently; the candidate has then himself acquired rights which must be recognized, and if objection is made to his advancement, both the candidate and the members of the Chapter have a right to be informed and to judge of the sufficiency of the grounds of such objection."

On Lodge suspension he says :—

"We suppose it to be the well settled law of our own jurisdiction that suspension from Lodge for non-payment of dues merely disconnects the brother from his Lodge, leaving him in good standing as a Mason so far as

any non-affiliated Mason can be in good standing ; and, that affiliation in a Lodge not being necessary to membership in the Chapter such suspension has no effect upon the latter. We are aware that Companion Larner's view is held by some other learned and able Masons, and by some Grand Chapters ; we are not certain that the doctrine is not supported by a preponderance of opinion. It certainly has in its favor a weight of authority such as to make it, at least, respectable. Still, we do not think it is supported by the better reason, and should choose for the present to see our own Grand Chapter adhere to its old rule upon the subject."

In his notice of New York, he has the following comments on the passage of a resolution fixing the time for closing the session :—

" A resolution by a Masonic Body determining the time when it shall be closed, we think will strike most Masons as an anomaly in the Order. If anything was ever established in Masonry, it is that its bodies are opened and closed at the will of their presiding officers. It is equally a rule as ancient as the Order itself, that the work and proceedings of Masonic Bodies are under similar directions, and that a motion to lay on the table is therefore in admissible. These are proceedings properly incident to parliamentary bodies from their constitution and genius ; but they cannot be adopted into Masonry without at once destroying its most elementary and distinctive character, as an organized institution."

We also copy his very excellent conclusion :—

" The question dividing the sentiment of the companions, which seems to be fraught with most practical importance, is that relating to the effect upon the status of a Royal Arch Mason of suspension from his membership in the Blue Lodge for non-payment of dues. The payment of dues has hitherto been deemed with us, and probably in most of the older Masonic jurisdictions, a duty pertaining to Lodge membership merely, and having no relation to standing as a Mason. We hold that by elevation to the degree of Master Mason one becomes a brother of the Order in good and regular standing. It then becomes optional with himself whether he will or not apply for membership in a particular Lodge, and to what particular Lodge, if any, he will so apply. It is also optional with any Lodge so applied to whether it will or not admit him to its membership ; but whether he so applies, or, applying whether or not he is received, has nothing to do with his standing as a Mason. If he applies, and is, in the option of the Lodge, admitted to membership, he then, in addition to his obligation as a Mason, takes upon himself certain duties to that particular Lodge, one of which is the payment of such periodical dues as its by-laws require. The failure to make such payment is not regarded by us as a dereliction of Masonic duty, but the mere failure in the performance of an obligation pertaining to his Lodge membership, for which such membership may, by the decree or judgment of the Lodge be made to cease, and he to return to his former condition of an unaffiliated Mason. This view is carried to its logical results, and the Lodge for such an omission is only allowed to strike the brother from its roll of membership, leaving him in all respects in good standing as a Master Mason, with all his rights as such unimpaired. This is, with us, suspension from membership for non-payment of dues. Such, and no other, being the effect of a suspension from membership for failure in the performance of this duty of Lodge membership, it follows that the companion's standing as a Royal Arch Mason is not by it affected. It is not to be doubted that it is competent for a Grand Lodge to make non-

payment of Lodge dues a Masonic offence, and to attach to it the penalty of suspension or expulsion from the rights and privileges of Masonry. Whenever and wherever that shall be done, a brother expelled or suspended for that cause will be no longer a Mason, and it will follow that his position in the Chapter will by it be terminated. But until such a rule shall be adopted by the Grand Lodge, non-payment of dues is with us no forfeiture of Masonic rights, and consequently produces no effect upon membership in the Chapter.

This view of the subject, however plain as it seems to those who hold it, is not accepted by the whole body of the Craft, and by many its soundness is denied. The latter hold that suspension from Lodge membership, no matter for what cause, and whatever its effect where it takes place, is necessarily suspension from Masonic rights, or at any rate it is by such companions claimed that the effect to be given such suspension is not to be determined by the law of the jurisdiction where it takes place, but, that other grand jurisdictions may give it such effect as they may choose to apply to it by their local law. Several Grand Chapters have adopted this latter view, and have accordingly declared that a companion suspended from Lodge membership for non-payment of dues, regardless of the law of the jurisdiction where it occurs, shall be denied with them all rights or recognition as Royal Arch Masons. The discussion has been conducted with something of the spirit of dogmatism by those holding the opposite views, though we do not observe that it has in any instance degenerated into acrimony.

It is not reasonably to be expected that either side in this conflict of opinion will surrender its view and adopt the opposing doctrine. But there is a ground upon which, as it seems to us, all might stand, with no surrender of opinion or sacrifice of principle. It is that which allows each grand jurisdiction, within the landmarks, to determine for the Masonic world the status of its own membership. Each companion may have his theory, and each jurisdiction its law, but neither should assume to prescribe its theory or its law to others. Whosoever is in good and regular standing by the law where he holds his membership, should be recognized and treated as in regular standing elsewhere; whomsoever is expelled or suspended from the rights of Masonry according to the law where it takes place should be deemed every where as no longer entitled to recognition as a Mason. In other words, the question should be made one of comity between the various jurisdictions, allowing each to act for itself without interference or dictation from others.

In the present spirit of the discussion it is perhaps more than doubtful whether this latter view will soon be universally accepted. It is pertinent, however, in view of the attitude which some grand Capitular jurisdictions have already assumed upon this question, to ask our companions of those jurisdictions if they propose to carry out their action to its logical results? When they choose to sojourn within our jurisdiction, or within such as hold the same rule with us, will they carry their theory into practice, and refuse to visit our Chapters because they will be liable to meet with and thus required to recognize as companion Royal Arch Masons some who are under this species of suspension? Again, when we sojourn among them, will they refuse us recognition because we recognize and associate with persons as Masons whom they choose to regard as not worthy of such recognition? Such, we conceive, would be the logical result of the position they have assumed. With their theory we have no controversy. If they make non-payment of Lodge dues a Masonic offence, and visit it with expulsion or suspension from the rights and privileges of Masonry, we shall doubtless

treat their members thus expelled or suspended, as they treat them. We do not set up for censors over them, or for judges of the correctness of their laws. If they suspend for any cause from the rights of Masonry, that alone furnishes the rule for our conduct; we have no other. When they come among us they can hardly expect to prescribe the local law of their jurisdictions to ours. Will they denounce us at their own homes as associates of spurious Masons, denying us recognition unless we change our laws? They would probably shrink from an attitude thus hostile to Masonic union, and yet we see no other result in theory from that which they have already assumed.

We see no certain solution of this dispute unless it be time, with the softening and conciliatory influences it is usually found to contain. The history of our Order affords the assurance that there is a spirit within it equal to the exigency of any hour, and that as with every former problem with which Masonry has been called to grapple, so with this, a solution will be found consistent, as well with the integrity of the Institution as with its dignity.

A few words to Royal Arch Masons of New Hampshire we trust will not be deemed inappropriate. If, being suspended from Lodge membership for non-payment of dues, while travelling into sister grand jurisdictions, they shall find themselves there denied recognition, we see no remedy within their reach save one, and that lies with themselves, namely, to pay their dues and return to membership. Clearly our Grand Chapter can do nothing for their relief. True we deem them Royal Arch Masons in good standing, but others choose to regard them otherwise, and we see no present probability of the latter becoming converted to our views.

It remains to advise all Royal Arch Masons of our obedience, so long as they desire recognition elsewhere, to remain faithful to their Lodge affiliations. This will insure them, when absent, against the denial of recognition by those with whom they may deem themselves entitled to associate."

M. E. Comp. Charles N. Towle, (Concord,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. George P. Cleaves, (Concord,) G. S.

NEW JERSEY.

The 27th Annual Meeting was held at Trenton, Sept. 12th, 1883.

The Grand officers report great prosperity.

The Committee on Constitutions made the following report, which was adopted:—

"In relation to the resolution to compel the selection and record of Marks, prior to the conferring of the Past Master's degree, that such course would be in conflict with the approved decisions of Companion Charles M. Zeh, being No. 9, on page 27, and that of Companion John C. G. Robertson, being No. 10, on same page of the Digest.

In relation to the amendment to section 13 of the general regulations, changing the penalty for non-payment of dues from 'striking from the roll' to 'suspension,' the committee recommend its adoption, so as to read:

Sec. 13. A member of a subordinate Chapter who shall be in arrears for dues for twelve months, and shall neglect to pay the same within one month after being notified by the Secretary, may be suspended by an open vote of two-thirds of the members present at a regular convocation. A member thus suspended having paid the amount of the dues accrued against him at

the time of the suspension, may be re-instated by a majority vote of the members present at a regular convocation, but his petition for restoration shall lie over one regular convocation."

The rest of the business which was transacted appears to have been of local interest only and calls for no special comment.

The Grand Secretary reports on correspondence, and notices the Proceedings of Canada for 1882.

In his notice of California, he says :—

"To fully appreciate the following, it should be remembered that California has stated in her constitution that Grand Masters have not the right to make Masons at sight :

'This, in our opinion, is the true doctrine ; the executive head of the Order should be the last to countenance an infraction of the law, and we are aware that we shall excite the 'holy horror' of some of our 'old foggy' contemporaries, when we assert that the theory applies with equal force to Grand Masters of symbolic Lodges. Before the adoption of written constitutions, Grand Masters were autocrats and did pretty much as they pleased ; but in these enlightened days, when each Grand Lodge is governed by its own constitution, we contend that the Grand Master is as firmly bound by its provisions as the humblest member of the Fraternity. We are no believer in the doctrine of inherent rights of Grand Masters.'

'We are no believer !' This cry was originated many years ago, and it has never been without followers, but because a certain one does not believe, that does not affect the value of fact, nor does restriction by constitution destroy an inherent right by office having an existence before the constitution was framed. The very attempt in the constitution to prevent, absolutely proves the existence of the claim which may be put to the proof some day by an incumbent who, having a little more dash of independence, fears not to assert his rights. The inherent rights of Grand Masters existed when the big trees of California were saplings, and for how many years prior it is unnecessary to state at present.

Penal enactment, right of estimate, jurisdictional law and territorial supremacy are intimately connected. In their various bearings they are engaging a large share of the attention of the writers of the various states. From the Pacific across the Rocky mountains, echoing the everlasting truth from canyon to canyon, and from peak to peak, reverberates the infallible back to the Atlantic—the majesty of the right of individual conscience and judgment by personal examination, that gift of gifts that binds the human with the divine by possession, and marks the line between man and the other works of the Creator.

The declaration that the truth is in the sole keeping of a particular jurisdiction, whose standard of qualification must, upon presentation, be accepted everywhere at the rating at which they have established it, appears to be of similar value with the Shapira manuscript and Moabiti^{sh} stone, with the same tendency, that of injuring the standing of their "curiosity shops in Jerusalem."

M. E. Comp. Arch J. Wark, (New Brunswick) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. George B. Edwards, (Jersey City) G. S.

NEW YORK.

The 87th Convocation was held at Albany, February 5th, 1884.

M. E. Comp. James D. Pollard, G. H. P.

He delivered a very interesting address, treating the various subjects mentioned with marked ability. On the condition of the Craft, he says :—

“The year just closed has been a successful one in nearly all our Subordinate Chapters ; not a rapid, unnatural growth, confined to a few Chapters, but a steady, moderate accretion of good material in all parts of the jurisdiction.

The destruction of the upper portion of the Masonic Temple by fire, December 1st, 1883, left the greater part of the Chapters in New York City homeless for a time ; but temporary quarters were found, and by the prompt and efficient action of the Deputy Grand High Priest, their work was continued without stoppage or delay, and I am informed that they expect soon to be able to return to their former homes.

One application for permission to organize a new Chapter has been refused ; no others have been presented. I am still of the opinion, heretofore expressed, that the number of Chapters now in existence in this State is equal to the present needs of the Craft.

The Grand Chapter meets to-day representing an increased membership over last year of upwards of two hundred ; and our financial condition is all that can be desired, beginning the year as we do with a balance of over five thousand dollars in the treasury.

Our relations with other Grand Chapters continue to be satisfactory, and of the most amicable character.

I desire, however, to call the attention of the Grand Chapter to one subject, which, in my judgment, demands prompt and resolute action.

In November last I received from M. E. H. L. Robinson, Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, a copy of his proclamation declaring all Masonic intercourse suspended between that Grand Chapter and the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England, Wales, &c., &c., and at the same time I received a fraternal letter from M. E. Comp. Robinson asking the aid and support of this Grand Chapter in the premises.

The cause of the proclamation of non-intercourse is the action of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England, Wales, &c., &c., in presuming to warrant two Lodges of Mark Master Masons at Montreal, within the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, under which warrants said Lodges have been erected and constituted, and have also formed, from and by the members of said Lodges, a Provincial Grand Mark Lodge for Quebec.

The unmasonic and unfraternal invasion of the rights and territory of our sister Grand Chapter of Quebec, has all been made since the formation of that Grand Chapter, and, after mutual recognition and the exchange of fraternal relations between the two Grand Bodies ; and the courteous remonstrances of the Grand Chapter of Quebec have remained unanswered and unnoticed by the Grand Mark Lodge.

In common with the other Representatives of the Grand Chapter of New York at the Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter in 1877, I earnestly opposed the recognition of the Grand Mark Lodge of England, Wales, &c., &c., because I deemed it beneath the dignity of the

General Grand Chapter to extend its official recognition to a body which only claimed to exercise authority over one of the degrees which compose our Royal Arch System. I did not then expect, however, that the Grand Mark Lodge of England, Wales, &c., &c., would so soon attempt to break down the American Royal Arch and foment discord and unfraternal feeling by assuming to plant its own peculiar Mark Lodges on this continent in the midst of our Masonic homes.

The voice of the Grand Masonic Bodies of New York has never borne any uncertain sound on the question of exclusive jurisdiction within territorial limits ; and I confidently trust that you will at this time extend your sympathy and support to the Grand Chapter of Quebec. And to that end I earnestly recommend that all Masonic intercourse between this Grand Chapter and its Subordinates and the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England, Wales, &c., &c., and its Subordinates, be declared suspended during such time as it continues its unjustifiable invasion of the rights and territory of the Grand Chapter of Quebec."

He reports 13 decisions, all of them, in our opinion, eminently sound and satisfactory :—

That a companion holding a dimit can affiliate with any Chapter that is willing to receive him, without regard to his place of residence.

That the conferring by a Chapter of one or more degrees on a candidate at the request of the Chapter in which he was elected, does not place him in any different position than that he would have occupied if his own Chapter had conferred the degrees, and he can only unite with the Chapter so conferring the degrees by request, in the manner required in the case of any member of another Chapter desiring to affiliate.

That the warrant of a Chapter is restored not to any number of petitioners but to all the members of the Chapter who were in good standing at the date of the forfeiture of the warrant, or who shall have restored themselves by paying their dues to the Grand Secretary before the Chapter is revived.

That it is not necessary that such of the companions petitioning for the restoration of a warrant, as were suspended at the time of the forfeiture of such warrant, should pay their indebtedness before the warrant is restored, but that such companions cannot have part or lot in the revival of the Chapter unless they do make such payments.

That the right of a companion to restore himself to good standing, by paying his indebtedness to the Chapter, is not affected by lapse of time.

That under the provisions of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, Chapters in this jurisdiction have the right to confer (without charge) the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, and Most Excellent Master, or any of them, on worthy companions from without the United States, who have regularly received the Royal Arch Degree ; but such companions cannot be admitted to any Chapter, or witness the conferring of any degrees, until they shall have received such of the degrees as had not previously been conferred upon them.

That when a candidate has been elected and received the degrees in a Chapter, or the degrees have been conferred upon him at the request of such Chapter, he is a member of such Chapter whether he has signed the by-laws or not ; but that it is his duty to sign such by-laws at the first opportunity.

That a companion must sign the by-laws of his Chapter personally and not by proxy.

That it is the right of a Companion who has been elected and received the degrees in a Chapter, or at its request, to sign the by-laws of such Chapter ; and after a candidate has received the Royal Arch degree, the

High Priest has not the right to order a ballot on the question of admitting such a Companion to membership.

That the Grand Chapter does not recognize unaffiliation as a proper penalty for the non-payment of dues, and that a Chapter would not have a right to adopt a by-law making non-payment of dues punishable by unaffiliation.

That the standing of a companion, in his Chapter, is not affected by his voluntary unaffiliation in his Lodge.

That a Chapter has no right or authority to confer the degree of Past Master on a Master Mason as Master elect of a Lodge.

That the Grand High Priest has not the power to authorize a Chapter to hold its annual election of officers at a date earlier than that named in the Constitution.

On Representatives he says :—

“In connection with the subject of Representatives I would say, that several of the Grand Chapters have recently adopted resolutions limiting the term of service of their Representatives near other Grand Chapters, and I am of opinion that we would do wisely to follow their example.

The position of Representative under our present usage is practically a life office ; and even if a Grand High Priest feels that a change in representation near any Grand Chapter is desirable or necessary, it would be very unpleasant for him to ask a companion for his resignation, or order his removal.

Times change and men change with them, as well in Masonry as in the outer world, and a companion who is a satisfactory Representative to-day, may be far from satisfactory five or ten years hence.

I therefore recommend, that the Grand Chapter adopt a resolution making the commission of all our Representatives near other Grand Chapters expire at the date of the Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter in 1886, and that all commissions hereafter issued, shall expire at the date of the Triennial Convocation succeeding their issue.”

He attended the General Grand Chapter, and is more than ever convinced of its utility and necessity. He only regrets that it is not clothed with such power as would enable it to take its place as the authorized exponent and supreme authority on all Royal Arch questions.

The labor of disseminating the amended ritual has made rapid and satisfactory progress during the past year, owing to the exertions of the Grand Lecturer and his assistants.

We copy entire the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence :—

“Your Committee on Jurisprudence find great pleasure in being able to say that, after having given due consideration to the several decisions of the M. E. Grand High Priest, presented in his very able address and referred to them, they give such decisions, with the exception only of the third, fourth and eighth, their full and entire concurrence. They have accordingly prepared a resolution expressing such approval, and they recommend the adoption of the same by the Grand Chapter.

The third decision of the Grand High Priest is “that the warrant of a Chapter is restored, not to any number of petitioners, but to all the members of the Chapter who were in good standing at the date of the

forfeiture of the warrant, or who shall have restored themselves by paying their dues to the Grand Secretary before the Chapter is revived." Your committee approve of what they understand to be the substance and effect of this decision; but they are of the opinion that the matter is of sufficient importance to justify its formulation and adoption as a General Regulation, a draft of which is herewith submitted.

The fourth decision of the Grand High Priest is that it is not necessary that such of the Companions "petitioning for the restoration of a warrant, as were suspended at the time of the forfeiture of such warrant, should pay their indebtedness before the warrant is restored; but that such companions cannot have part or lot in the revival of the Chapter unless they do make such payment." Your committee are of the opinion that the petition for the restoration of a forfeited or suspended warrant should be subscribed by at least nine members of the Chapter, in good standing at the date of such petition. But they agree with the Grand High Priest that the fact that other companions, in addition to the nine in good standing, have united in the prayer of such petition, involves no impropriety. They also concur with the Grand High Priest in his opinion that, in case of the restoration of the warrant, no companion, whether a petitioner or not, should in any manner participate in the affairs of the Chapter, until purged of his disability. Your Committee, however, believe that the will of the Grand Chapter upon these questions should be distinctly and definitely declared in a General Regulation, and they have accordingly prepared such a one as they think the case requires. The same is hereto annexed, and recommended to the favorable decision of the Grand Chapter.

The eighth decision of the Grand High Priest is "that a companion must sign the by-laws of his Chapter personally, and not by proxy." From this decision your committee finds itself obliged to dissent. They concede that in the very great majority of instances the companion, upon his exaltation or affiliation in a Chapter, should be presented with the by-laws, and required to sign them; not, as some have supposed, to complete his membership, but to signify by a solemn and deliberate act, the evidence of which may be long preserved, that he has promised fealty to the Chapter and due obedience to its laws. Yet your committee are able to call to mind many instances in which a companion has been exalted, at the request of his own Chapter, in one located in a distant jurisdiction, and therefore been unable to sign the by-laws personally. In such cases it seems to your committee that it would be well that the companion's name should be subscribed by another hand than his own. But in such cases your committee would require that the companion should in writing authorize another companion to subscribe the by-laws for him, such authority being presented to the Chapter at the time of the subscription, and thereafter preserved. For the clear expression of their views upon this not unimportant matter, they have framed and appended hereto a General Regulation, of which they recommend the adoption.

Your committee also recommend that in approving of the tenth decision of the Grand High Priest, the Grand Chapter, for the sake of greater definiteness, modify the same so as to read as follows: "The Grand Chapter does not recognize unaffiliation as a proper penalty for the non-payment of dues, and that a Chapter has not the right to adopt a by-law making non-payment of dues punishable by unaffiliation; the only penalty, under the Constitution, for non-payment of dues being suspension."

Your committee have also duly considered the recommendation of the Grand High Priest in respect to the term and tenure of office of the Representatives of this Grand Chapter near other Grand Chapters, but are unable

to concur therein. It is their opinion that the second paragraph of section 13 of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, by which the power is given to the Grand High Priest to appoint representatives, carries with it the authority to supersede such representatives at any time by the appointment of others. They are of opinion that this power cannot be taken away from the Grand High Priest, except by an amendment to the Constitution ; and that such power is safely lodged in his hands, and will, without much doubt, be always discreetly exercised. They therefore recommend that, until it shall be manifest that the law, as it now stands, is productive of evil results, the Constitution in this respect should remain unchanged.

The resolutions agreed to by the committee are as follows :

Resolved, (1) That the decisions of the Grand High Priest contained in his annual address, and numbered 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, and 13, be and the same are hereby approved.

Resolved, (2) That the following be adopted as General Regulation, Section 6 :

§ 6. The warrant of a Chapter which shall have been forfeited or surrendered, when restored, shall be restored to all the members of the Chapter, who, at the time of such restoration, shall be in good standing.

Resolved, (3) That the following be adopted as General Regulation, Section 7 :

§ 7. The petition for the restoration of a forfeited or surrendered warrant shall be signed by at least nine companions of such Chapter, in good standing at the date of such petition. Such petition, however, may be signed by other companions of such Chapter. But the companions petitioning for the restoration of a forfeited or surrendered warrant, who shall not be in good standing at the date of such petition, shall not, in case such warrant be restored, participate in the affairs of the Chapter until their disabilities shall be removed.

Resolved, (4) That the following be adopted as General Regulation, Section 8 :

§ 8. The by-laws of a Chapter, when signed, must be signed personally, or by a companion thereunto duly authorized in writing ; which authority must be presented to the Chapter at the time of such signing, and thereafter preserved."

These recommendations were considered in order as presented. The first, second and third resolutions were adopted. The fourth resolution and the recommendation to modify the tenth decision of the Grand High Priest, respecting the penalty for non-payment of dues, were not agreed to. The recommendation regarding Grand Representatives was adopted.

Comp. Simons of the Special Committee to which was referred the matter relating to the invasion of the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, submitted the following report, which was received, and the recommendation adopted :

"To the Grand Chapter of the State of New York :

The Special Committee to which was referred so much of the annual address of the Grand High Priest as relates to the invasion of the jurisdiction of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Quebec, Dominion of Canada, by the Grand Mark Lodge of England, &c., having duly considered the matter, respectfully report :

That a brief statement of the facts will at once indicate our duty in the premises. The Grand Chapter of Quebec is a just and duly constituted

governing power in Royal Arch Masonry, and as such has been recognized by this Grand Chapter, and is one of its correspondents. As such, it has, had, since its establishment, and has now, full jurisdiction in its territory over the several degrees of Royal Arch Masonry, including of course, the Mark degree, and it would therefore be just as competent for the Grand Mark Lodge of England to establish its subordinates in any of the American States as in the Province of Quebec, already masonically occupied.

The Grand Chapter of New York cannot, and will not, abandon the doctrine of exclusive jurisdiction in properly occupied territory, and it must therefore sustain the Grand Chapter of Quebec in the present emergency.

It is, at the same time, well to observe that the question of jurisdiction is not absolutely recognized by Masonic organizations beyond the North American Continent ; but it is probable that the need of harmony and good fellowship will, at no distant day, bring about a general observance of the rule practiced here, and found so much to our advantage.

On this statement we recommend the adoption of the following resolutions :

Resolved, That the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of New York, recognizes and sustains the authority of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Quebec throughout the bounds of that Province in all matters relating to Royal Arch Masonry, and deprecates the exercise of any other authority whatever, so far as the rights of that Grand Chapter are concerned.

Resolved, That we fraternally request that the Grand Mark Lodge of England, &c., withdraw its warrants, and leave the Grand Chapter of Quebec in the undisturbed exercise of its legitimate authority."

The Select Committee on History presented the following report. The resolution was not agreed to, and the committee was continued, with power to resume its work.

"Your Committee on the History of Royal Arch Masonry in this State, continued at the last session of this Grand Body, after the passage of a resolution 'that this Grand Chapter take such steps as may be necessary to obtain and place in the hands of your committee all books, papers, etc.," respectfully report that they have used every available means at their command to obtain the documents necessary, on which to raise the superstructure of a true and faithful record of the early history of Royal Arch Masonry in this state, but their efforts have been fruitless, and although four years have elapsed since the first appointment of this committee, they have been unable to obtain a single one of those papers which are so essentially necessary to the purpose. It is, therefore, with much regret they offer the following resolution :

Resolved, That the Special Committee on the History of Royal Arch Masonry in this State, being unable to obtain the documents and records, the property of this Grand Chapter, necessary for the purpose for which it was appointed, be, and is hereby discharged from further consideration of the subject."

Our proceedings for 1883 receive a very pleasant notice at the hands of Comp. Darius A. Ogden, in his report on correspondence. He regards the address of Comp. Ross a model, short, concise, plain and to the point. He thinks that "Nothing but the indomitable energy of those who stand at the helm and guide the craft can account for our condition and progress."

Our system of Grand Superintendents also meets with his approval, as securing proper instruction, with unity of sentiment and uniformity of work.

We feel bound to make our very best *kotou* for the following :—

“ R. E. Comp. Henry Robertson again presents the Report on Foreign Correspondence. For sixteen years this accomplished writer and learned Mason has prepared these reports, and we have found them all good, but the last the best of all.”

He is fully in accord with Comp. Drummond and others in sustaining the Grand Chapter of Quebec as against the invasion of the Grand Mark Lodge of England.

In his notice of Kentucky he says :—

“ He withheld, or refused to grant, a dispensation for a new Chapter in Louisville, because there was no evidence that among the petitioners there was one competent to work or instruct. And he recommends that no new Chapter should be instituted without evidence that one at least of their number is competent to work, and to give instruction. Such a rule is in accord with the spirit of the Order, and it is simply a waste of time and tendency to demoralization to constitute Chapters and expect good results when no one is able to perform work or give proper instruction.

The time has come when the Reportorial Corps should take up this defect, and hammer away at it till the Chapters come to see and appreciate its importance and apply the corrective in an effectual way. Free Masonry is strictly speculative, teaches mainly by signs and symbols and illustrates and instructs by modes universal in their application and everywhere the same—speaking to the heart and understanding through the eye, the ear, the touch ; they are universal and the same everywhere ; and to be useful they must be understood, comprehended and fixed indelibly upon the mind and memory. This cannot be done by simply hurrying a candidate through the degrees. The candidate has no right to a second degree until the first is understood by him ; time should be given—indeed, is indispensable—to study and become familiar with each degree, its language, meaning and symbolisms, before another is conferred.”

It is well known that in all good Lodges great care is taken that a candidate shall be reasonably proficient in one degree before he is allowed to receive the next. He is required to pass an examination in open Lodge to show his knowledge and he may be refused permission to advance until he has acquired the requisite skill. There is no reason why the same care should not be exercised in the Chapter. Skill and knowledge are just as essential in the Chapter as in the Lodge and even more so, as there is more to be learned.

The practice, however, is widely different and because of the laxity in this respect we have comparative weakness in the Chapters and often lack of interest. Reformation is needed, and first, we want competent instructors, officers able and

willing to impart a correct and thorough knowledge of the work and its symbolism. This should be carefully heeded whenever a Chapter is formed. Then with a certain specified time between each degree, and proof of the candidate's proficiency in what he has received, before advancement, we would have better Chapters, and a general elevation of the Capitular branch of our Order would be the result.

M. E. Comp. James E. Morrison (New York,) G. H. P.
R. E. Comp. Christopher G. Fox, (Buffalo,) G. S.

OHIO.

The 67th Convocation was held at Sandusky, October 10th, 1883.

M. E. Comp. Daniel A. Scott, G. H. P.

He reports peace and prosperity. He was not called upon to settle any differences whatever. His executive duties were light. The subordinates loyally live up to the constitution and the code. He favors examinations in each degree :—

“Companions, permit me again to call your attention to a subject referred to in my last annual communication, namely : that a candidate be required to familiarize himself with each preceding degree before he is permitted to advance higher.

Under such a requirement we would have fewer but more intelligent Royal Arch Masons. It has been well said that ‘the true value of our mystic science is not attributable to numerical force, but to the real worth, industry and intelligence of our members.’ Numbers may come into our courts, and rally under our banners, and yet be as unproductive as drones in the hive ; and who, possessing neither industry or ambition, will never aspire to work off a single design from the trestle board, or add a solitary ashler to the temple.”

A committee was appointed to codify the laws and print the same.

Comp J. Kelly O’Neal submits the Report on Correspondence.

Under “Georgia,” he says :—

“In our opinion, an interest in Masonry cannot be promoted by legislation. The institution can be fostered and encouraged, and true Masonry developed, only by educating the heads and hearts of the people ; by its members exemplifying in their daily lives the teaching and principles of the Order, by promptness and efficiency on the part of the officers, and not by the resolutions and edicts of grand bodies, or by ostentation and parade.”

Our proceedings do not appear to have been received.

M. E. Comp. John W. Chamberlin, (Tiffin,) G. H. P.
R. E. Comp. James Nesbitt, (Troy), G. S.

OREGON.

The 23rd Convocation was held at Portland, June 8th, 1883.
M. E. Comp. James F. Robinson, G. H. P.

He reports the past year as one of uninterrupted peace and harmony. There has been no dissension among the workmen, and all the subordinate Chapters are in a flourishing condition.

He issued a dispensation for one new Chapter.

The codification of the standing resolutions of the Grand Chapter was perfected, and the same ordered printed with the proceedings.

There were no grievances presented, and the business of the Grand Chapter was transacted in good shape.

The Report on Correspondence is again by Comp. T. McF. Patton. In his notice of our proceedings of 1882, he says:—

“The great success which has attended the labors of our companions in Canada is due, in a large measure, to their system of visitation and thorough instruction in the ritual; and yet the advancement to official honors is attended, as we understand it, with many disadvantages which do not exist in our system. All business presented is thoroughly considered by general committee.”

These proceedings have come to hand just as we are closing our report, and we are unable to give them proper attention at this time. Comp. Patton has a number of learned and judicious comments on various matters, which are worthy of consideration. We regret however, very much to learn that this report is his last. He has been appointed United States Consul in Japan, and has already sailed for his post of future labor. He will be much missed by all the fraternity. He has made a name for himself as a careful student and a thorough devotee of our royal art. We wish him all possible happiness and prosperity.

M. E. Comp. James F. Robinson, (Eugene City,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. R. P. Earhart, (Salem.) G. S.

PENNSYLVANIA.

At a quarterly meeting held on March 8th, 1883, a new constitution was adopted and the following resolutions carried:

“*Resolved*, That the Constitution, as adopted by the Grand Chapter, shall take effect, and go into operation on St. John the Baptist's Day, June 24th, 1883.

Resolved, That the Committee on revision be continued with power to draft the necessary forms, ceremonials, etc., in accordance with the revised Constitution.

Resolved, That the M. E. Grand Secretary be directed to prepare a form of minutes, and the Committee on By-laws be directed to prepare a form of By-laws, in accordance with the Constitution of this Grand Chapter.

Resolved, That each Chapter in this Jurisdiction be directed to forward

to the M. E. Grand Secretary a copy of its By-laws for correction by the Committee on By-laws, on or before the 1st day of August next.

Resolved, That every Chapter hereafter adopting a whole code of By-laws shall use the printed form authorized by the Grand Chapter, omitting therefrom, such part or parts as it does not require, and adding thereto such special provisions as in its judgment are necessary, not in contravention to the Constitution of the Grand Chapter.

Resolved, That the M. E. Grand Secretary be directed to have the revised Constitution, with the forms and ceremonies, etc., when prepared, printed and bound. Each Chapter in this Jurisdiction, upon forwarding to that officer the copies of the Constitution it now has shall be entitled to receive four copies of the revised work. The price of the book shall be, in other cases, \$1.00 each."

On June 7th the following were adopted : —

" *Whereas*, An effort is now being made by many of the subordinate Masonic bodies in this jurisdiction to secure the early establishment of a Home for Aged and Indigent Masons, an enterprise commending itself to the judgment and charity of all Royal Arch Masons ; therefore

Resolved, That the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania has heard with great satisfaction of the movement to establish such a Home, and that it cordially recommends this great charity to the active co-operation and aid of its several subordinate Lodges and Chapters.

Resolved, That the M. E. Grand High Priest be, and he is hereby, respectfully requested to appoint a Special Committee of fifteen to represent this Grand Chapter in the meetings held to consider this matter."

The annual Convocation was held at Philadelphia, December 27th, 1883.

M. E. Comp. Augustus R. Hall, G. H. P.

The following correspondence is interesting and shows that the Grand Chapter of Scotland has no hesitation in conferring the degrees upon one who is a resident within the jurisdiction of a sister Grand Chapter with whom they are in friendly intercourse. They either do not or will not understand our rules as to the jurisdiction of Masonic bodies here over residents here :

" Philadelphia, November 6th, 1883.

To Wm. Edwards, Grand Scribe E., Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland, No. 1 South Hanover Street, Edinburgh, Scotland.

MY DEAR COMPANION :

I have just heard that during the present year (the past summer), that the Royal Arch Degrees were conferred on one Dr. Williams, a resident of Philadelphia, but a traveller for the time being in Scotland. The circumstances were as follows, while Dr. Williams was going from Edinburgh to Stirling, he met the Officers of your Supreme Grand Chapter on their way to Stirling to resuscitate the Chapter at that place, that he was asked to accompany the Grand Officers and be present. He said he was not a Royal Arch Mason, when the Grand Officers proposed to confer the degrees of Royal Arch Masonry upon him in a Stirling Chapter, which was accordingly done.

If the foregoing is true I would request you to inform us the reason why

a resident of this Jurisdiction (the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania,) should receive the Royal Arch Degrees in Scotland.

The Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania claims and exercises sole and exclusive Jurisdiction over all residents within Pennsylvania as far as relates to the Royal Arch Degrees. She respects and always has respected the rights of other Grand Chapters over residents of their Jurisdictions. Whenever asked to waive Jurisdiction, she cheerfully does so, but is very sensitive about the taking of her residents without authority. We have no word to say against the Masonic character of Dr. Williams, but we do object to the principal sought to be exercised by Scotland.

I am your Brother,

CHARLES E. MEYER,

Grand Secretary.

To this letter the following reply was received :

Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland.

Scribe's Chamber. 1 South Hanover Street.

Edinburgh, December 3rd, 1883.

CHARLES E. MYER, Esq.,

Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, U. S. A.

DEAR SIR AND COMPANION :

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your favor of 6th ultimo. In reply permit me to state that in my official capacity as Grand Scribe E. of Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, I registered the name of Comp James S. Williams, solicitor, whose address as given in the return form sent me from the 'Stirling Rock' Chapter No. 2, is Philadelphia, the usual Diploma being issued to be delivered to him.

The information received by you that Dr. (?) Williams met the OFFICERS OF SUPREME CHAPTER when journeying to Stirling is incorrect. Neither Supreme Chapter or Supreme Grand Committee sent a deputation of their office bearers to Stirling on the occasion referred to. Dr. Dickson, it appears, a member of Supreme Chapter, met Dr. Williams and his friend, in the train while on his way to assist at the Exaltation of several Master Masons in "Stirling Rock" Chapter, having been requested to do so by friends he has in that Chapter. Dr. Dickson admits, and takes upon himself the whole responsibility of introducing Dr. Williams and his friend to the office bearers of the Stirling Rock Chapter and I understand he has written Dr. Williams an explanatory letter which I have no doubt will be shown to you for perusal.

As I have mentioned, in recording the name in the books of Supreme Chapter and issuing the usual Diploma I have only followed the course pursued by Supreme Chapter since its formation and I do not think Stirling Rock Chapter has exceeded its powers or violated any law of the Supreme Chapter in admitting Dr. Williams.

Supreme Chapter Warrants or Charters confer the power of giving the "Mark Master," "Excellent," and "Royal Arch" degrees, also the Royal Ark Mariner, Knights of the Sword, Knights of the East and Knights of the East and West.

All Master Masons desirous of being exalted to the Royal Arch degree, must first take the "Mark" and "Excellent."

Yours fraternally,

WM. EDWARDS.

It appearing that Bro. Williams had not "passed the chair," etc., at the time of his advancement, as required in this jurisdiction, it was, on motion,

resolved that Dr. Williams be not recognized as a Royal Arch Mason, and that the Grand Secretary so notify the several Chapters, etc., in the Jurisdiction, and that the whole matter be referred to the Committee on Work and Jurisprudence.

In his annual address, the Grand High Priest congratulates the companions upon their prosperous condition. They have 107 Chapters, and 10,419 members.

He formed two new Chapters, and gave the following decisions :—

“ A candidate cannot apply to two Chapters at one and the same time. That the High Priest of a Chapter cannot be installed into office in any other Chapter than his own except by the authority of the Grand High Priest.

That a Chapter cannot be opened on the stated night of meeting prior to the hour fixed by the By-laws.

That a member can object to the conferring of the degrees on an approved candidate in his Chapter without stating his reasons for so objecting, provided such objection is made before receiving any of the Degrees for which he has applied in the Chapter.

That Chapters cannot receive petitions for the Mark Degree only.”

Comp. Andrew Zane, jr., reports on Correspondence and notices Canada for 1883.

M. E. Comp. Augustus R. Hall, (Philadelphia) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Charles E. Meyer, (Philadelphia) G. S.

QUEBEC.

The 7th Convocation was held at Sherbrooke, January 29th, 1884.

On the state of the Craft at home, the Grand Z., M. E. Comp. H. L. Robinson, has the following remarks :—

“ It gives me great pleasure to state, in the words of the Immediate Past Grand Z. at the last Convocation, that ‘ not a single appeal has been made, not a single case of grievance or a protest against any officer of our Grand Chapter, or of the Subordinate Chapters, has come before me.’

Our constitution is so well understood throughout the jurisdiction, and is so clear in its language and terms, that the duties of the executive offices are materially lessened. To this is due the fact, I am confident, that I have not been called upon to give a decision upon any subject.

The increase in membership has not been large, but from such information as I have received, as well as from personal observation, I am justified in stating that the increase has been healthy, and that the subordinate Chapters are working efficiently. These are troublous times for the Craft in this Province, and it is not to be wondered at that the “ profane ” display no great anxiety to become members of a fraternity excommunicated by the head of a powerful church on the one hand and assailed by professed friends, votaries of the Craft, on the other.”

As an example worthy of extensive imitation we notice that Comp. Robinson during the year visited all the Chapters in the jurisdiction. Though only eleven in number, the task was not

a light one, as they are scattered over the Province, with long distances intervening.

On Ritual, he says :—

The established Ritual was used in all but one subordinate Chapter, and I trust that has since fallen into line. In one particular that Ritual is faulty—no intermediate examination is required from the candidate in proceeding from degree to degree. I recommend that a committee be appointed to prepare a catechism of each degree; and would further recommend that a resolution be passed authorizing the second and third Principals to confer the intermediate degrees under the supervision of the first Principal. It would be a training school for them, and I am confident the effect would be beneficial.

He formed a new Chapter at Three Rivers.

The latter part of the address is taken up with an explanation of the issue of the edict of non-intercourse with the Grand Mark Lodge, and their relations with the Grand Chapter of England. It is a clear view of the situation, and we give it in full :—

“In October last fraternal relations between this Grand Chapter and that Grand Lodge were severed by an Edict to that effect issued by me after a sufficient notice and after remonstrances had been duly made by and on behalf of this Grand Chapter. The correspondence and documents, *pro* and *con*, will be laid before you, (see Appendix A) and I trust will receive that consideration at your hands which their vital importance deserves. Their length precludes their insertion herein, and I earnestly trust that each R. A. Mason within the jurisdiction will carefully peruse them in order to inform himself as to the situation of affairs, and the causes which have led to the course adopted.

It might not be amiss to leave the matter without further reference, but as the officers of the Grand Lodge of M. M. M. of England and Wales, &c., have criticised to some extent my action, and the idea has been conveyed to some of the sister Grand Chapters that I had proceeded too hastily in severing relations with that Grand Lodge, it is but just and proper that I should render to you an account of my official action, and justify the course pursued in this unpleasant matter, in order that you may be enabled to arrive at a conclusion thereon.

I was not ignorant of the past history of the difficulties between the craft in Canada and Quebec on the one hand and the Grand Bodies of the mother country on the other, in the formation of the Grand Lodges and Grand Chapters in Canada and Quebec, and the procrastinating policy of those Grand Bodies in the mother country. The proceedings of the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of Canada, and of the same bodies in this Province, are garnished with sufficient correspondence, reports, &c., to indicate to me that I had no reason to expect treatment more frank or fraternal than had been vouchsafed to Canadian Masons heretofore. The concessions obtained in the past were long contended for and grudgingly granted. There was an utter disregard displayed throughout of our rights or of our feelings, and no matter how cautious and prudent the proceedings on this side, or how considerate of our trans-atlantic brethren, we have always been met with a stolid indifference that amounted almost, if not quite to incivility and contempt. Not to go back to the early days of the struggles for Masonic independence for an example, but taking one near at hand, you will find a

warrant for my statement in the correspondence with the Grand Chapter of England published as an Appendix A in our proceedings for 1883. To a letter written on the 28th April, 1880, a reply was sent on the 10th of August following. To one sent by our Grand Scribe E. on the 18th October, 1880, a reply was sent on the 1st January, 1881. To another letter from this Grand Chapter of date 11th June, 1881, a reply was sent dated 21st Nov. 1881. And that is not all, the positive statements of this Grand Chapter, the written declaration of such eminent Masons as Past Grand Master A. A. Stevenson and R. E. Companion Thomas Milton, and others, are coolly put aside because the Grand Superintendent of the Grand Chapter of England states to the contrary. Thus a statement of this Grand Chapter, supported by four eminent Masons cognizant of the facts, is rejected on the counterstatement of one man who could not be so well informed in the premises as those who had made the affirmative declarations.

A careful examination of the dates of the correspondence submitted herewith further illustrates the position I assumed as likely to occur. With the past experience to guide me, and with a knowledge of the injury caused likely to be caused to Masonry in this Province if the controversy was to be dragged on for months and years, I deemed it wiser to cut short the dilatory procedure of our English brethren by frankly stating our wrongs, demanding redress, and then closing our doors. The action of the officials of that Grand Lodge, before and since, amply justifies the assumption thus made that in all probability the old procedure as to correspondence would be repeated. In my opinion the correspondence might have continued for years without definite results; we might have written and complained over and over again without receiving satisfaction or scarcely a courteous acknowledgment of our letters or complaints had it not been that the Edict severing fraternal relations was issued, thus putting the matter upon a basis where it would have to be treated with some regard to the brevity of life and in accordance with masonic principles and the ordinary method of conducting business.

But it must not be understood that I proceeded rashly against our English brethren, though the provocation was such as to warrant but little delay. You will note in the correspondence that M. E. Comp. Graham, on the 3rd of May last, wrote our Grand Representative in England about the matter, and receiving no reply on the 23rd of June wrote the Grand Master of that Grand Lodge with like results. It was in June my official attention was particularly called to the subject as requiring action. Reluctant to proceed to harsh measures, after consultation with my predecessors in office, it was thought best to await the results of the correspondence of M. E. Comp. Graham with the English officials. That correspondence producing no effect I wrote Lord Henniker, the Grand Master of that Grand Lodge, the letter which appears in the Appendix, and demanded the withdrawal of the warrants of the Mark Lodges at Montreal complained of on or before the 24th of September next, under penalty of the severance of fraternal relations. Copies of that letter were transmitted to Lord Henniker and to the Provincial Grand Master of his Grand Lodge at Montreal, and afterwards forwarded to the sister Grand Chapters in order to disclose to them our position, that if wrong we might be corrected and if right sustained. Thus over three months had elapsed between the first letter of M. E. Comp. Graham and the one first sent by me. The delay stated in my said letter expired without any response or the slightest notice being given thereto, and on the 13th of October I placed in the printer's hands the threatened Edict; but in the hope that something might occur to change

the position of affairs its issue was delayed until the last days in October. On the 29th of October a letter, written in terms which I am reluctant to characterize as it possibly deserves, was received from Rev. Canon Portal, to which my response was his prompt dismissal as our Grand Representative. A comparison of the date of M. E. Comp. Graham's letter to him (3rd May, 1883,) with the date of the semi-annual communication of that Grand Lodge at London, England, (5th June, 1883,) affords an indication of the good faith towards us of the brother whom that Grand Lodge had recommended, and on that recommendation we had selected, as our agent to look after our interests in that jurisdiction. With M. E. Comp. Graham's letter in his possession, with a mandate from us in his hands, he, as President of the General Board of that Grand Lodge, reported, endorsing the invasion of our territory. Far different was the conduct of their Representative to this Grand Chapter. The letters of the Rev. Brother in the Appendix are evidently written with the sanction and authority of his Grand Lodge, for they are written at its office, bear its seal, and speak for that Grand Lodge and not for this Grand Chapter. They are made part of the *precis* of that Grand Lodge, and his defence is the subsequent defence of that Grand Lodge.

Since the issue of the Edict the correspondence has been more frequent and animated, but as little satisfactory as the previous silence of the Executive of that Grand Lodge. I would remark, however, that the "observations of R. W. Bro. Badgley," referred to in the letter of their Grand Secretary of the 12th Nov. last, and which were to be forwarded to me, have never been received, although patiently waited for. When the *precis* and letter of the Grand Secretary of that Grand Lodge was received (7th January inst.) my letter to the sister Grand Chapters of the world was in type, and so near distributed that I conceived it to be not worth while to delay doing so. My answer will, however, be submitted to you, and will appear in the Appendix.

It will be within the recollection of some of you that threats of legal proceedings have been made in the Montreal newspapers, against the officers of this Grand Chapter. That threat has assumed shape in the letter from a firm of Advocates at Montreal, which appears at length in the Appendix. It is a demand on the part of two gentlemen with whom I am unacquainted, and of whom I never heard until the receipt of that letter demanding the withdrawal of the Edict of 13th Oct. before the 26th inst., under the threat of legal proceedings. As I did not recognize the authority, I concluded to defer the withdrawal of the Edict until a more convenient season. It is equally effective as a demand as the previous one of Rev. Canon Portal for an apology.

I leave the matter wholly in your hands. I have not thought it necessary to enter into any arguments in this address in support of our position, in view of the fact that the correspondence covers the matters in issue pretty fully, and such as are not therein given can readily be supplied by the Committee and by Companions here assembled. I do not desire to trespass upon the functions of the Grand Chapter in advising the course to be followed, but I am confident that this important subject will be carefully considered by you in a fraternal spirit, and the utterance of this Grand Chapter thereon will be characterized by calmness and dignity.

Our difficulty has been the subject of comment in Masonic Periodicals, and has been brought before several Grand Chapters. Many await the result of our deliberations before entering upon the consideration of the subject. The Grand Chapters of Massachusetts and Iowa have spoken with

no uncertain sound in their endorsement of our action, as will be seen upon an examination of the Report of our Committee on Foreign Correspondence ; and I am satisfied in stating, at least as my opinion, that when the facts become known the sister Grand Chapters will heartily approve of our position and action.

Before leaving this subject I take the opportunity of thanking, on behalf of this Grand Chapter, several of our Grand Representatives, and other distinguished Masons in the United States, as I have already done by letter, for their zeal and interest in our behalf.

GRAND CHAPTER OF ENGLAND.

The appendix to the proceedings for 1883, before alluded to, disclose the situation between the two Grand Chapters. That Grand Chapter has granted a duplicate warrant to a Chapter which had unanimously surrendered its warrant for transmission to the Grand Chapter of England, and had affiliated with this Grand Chapter as Mount Horeb. No further correspondence has been had on the subject. The connection between the Grand Lodge of Craft Masons and Grand Chapter of England (the latter being an adjunct of the former) renders action by this Grand Chapter alone more difficult. To produce the best results there should be a joint action on the part of the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of this Province. It is to be regretted that, on the formation of this Grand Chapter, the withdrawal of the English warrants, then in existence, had not been insisted on. The difficulty with the Grand Lodge of M. M. M. of England would not have occurred. The pretence of a right which they rest on the claims of these blue lodges and Chapters upon them, as disclosed in the correspondence, could not have existed. But we were young and reposed confidence in the good faith and fraternal spirit of a Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter from whom we had originally sprung, and which we hoped had learned by experience that the world moves on this continent, and would heartily and fraternally rejoice in the prosperity of the Craft in this Province as an indication also of a general advance in material prosperity and intelligence therein. If we desire to retain the respect of the sister Grand Bodies, and preserve our own self-respect, we must not permit any other Grand Body to occupy territory which legitimately belongs to us.

No instructions having been given me by the Grand Chapter, and no demand or request having been made to me since the last convocation, I have not felt at liberty to precipitate a conflict with that Grand Chapter ; but I now submit the matter to you, with the reflection that a longer delay will be highly injurious, and with the hope that some definite action will be taken. There should be but the one contest. The sister Grand Bodies will become heartily sick of us, if we continue to spread the fight over so many years. It is tiresome fighting the adversary in detachments. Let us fling our banner to the breeze and attack by Masonic methods, and with Masonic weapons, our adversaries all along the line. If we do not do so, we do not deserve to succeed. Better far to contend and fail than by a continuance of the present system, transmit to our children a heritage which we had not the manliness to defend nor the strength to support. But we shall succeed if we wisely but firmly insist upon our own whole rights.

The committees on Jurisprudence, Grievances and Appeals reported that no business had come before them.

A permanent benevolent fund has been established, starting with a special deposit of \$500.

The report of the committee on the address of the Grand Z. was adopted. From it we make the following extracts :—

“ The Committee recommend that as the ritual adopted by Grand Chapter for use in the Subordinate Chapters has been approved, and its excellence acknowledged by all, and ample time having been granted for making any necessary changes or additions to the paraphernalia, and for acquiring the work, its use be now enforced in each and every Chapter in our jurisdiction.

The Committee hope that a warrant of constitution will be issued to Shawenegam Chapter at Three Rivers.

The Committee join the Grand Z, in welcoming to Grand Chapter the newly appointed Representatives from the Grand Chapters of Massachusetts, Iowa, New Jersey, Nova Scotia and Rhode Island.

The committee have learned with regret of the death of R. E. Comp. W. B. Simpson, one of the founders of the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of Canada, and one of the fathers of Masonry in the Dominion. May he rest in peace !

The Committee recommend that the Constitution of this Grand Chapter in the matter of suspension for non-payment of dues be altered and amended so as to conform to and be concurrent with that of the Grand Lodge of Quebec.

In the matter of that portion of the address of the Grand Z, in which he draws the attention of Grand Chapter to our relations with the Grand Chapter of England, your Committee recognize the difficulties of our position, inasmuch as the Grand Chapter of England is an adjunct of the Grand Lodge of England, with which our Grand Lodge is at present in fraternal intercourse. The fact that the Grand Chapter of England gives its authority and warrant for the existence of one Chapter, St. Paul's Chapter, R. E., in this Province, in violation of the rights and sovereign jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter over all bodies of Capitular Masonry in this Province, is well known to us all ; and this Committee are of opinion that the time has now arrived when some action must be taken in the matter by this Grand Chapter. They therefore recommend that the Grand Z. confer with the M. W. the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, in reference to united action being taken by the two Grand Bodies in the matter of the existence in this Province of any Lodges or Chapters not acknowledging the authority and jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of Quebec. And, in case the Grand Lodge is not prepared or willing to take such action, as in the opinion of the Grand Z. is necessary for the proper vindication of the sovereignty of this Grand Chapter, the Grand Z. be and is hereby authorized to take such steps as he may deem proper in the matter.

The Committee have learned with regret of the invasion of the territory of this Grand Chapter by the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, &c., by the clandestine establishment by that Grand Body of three Mark Lodges and a Provincial Grand Lodge in our midst. The Committee have learned from the address of the Grand Z., as also from the statements and edicts issued by him, of his action at the different stages of the controversy between this Grand Chapter and the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, and its officials. They have also taken communication of the statements issued by the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, &c., and the explanations and excuses therein contained for their extraordinary action in this matter. The Committee approve of the action of our Grand Z., and of the steps taken by him on every occasion to maintain and support

the honor and dignity of this Grand Chapter, and to assert before the whole Masonic World the right of this Grand Chapter to sovereign jurisdiction over all bodies of Royal Arch Masonry and its subordinate degrees in this Province.

The Committee extend to the Grand Z. their sympathy in the difficult and disagreeable duties, which as the Grand Z. of this Grand Chapter he has been called upon to perform, and they recommend the Grand Chapter to show their approval of the course he has pursued and the steps he has taken, by the adoption of themotion which it is their duty now to submit for the consideration of the Grand Chapter.

Resolved, That the Grand Chapter fully endorses the action of the Grand Z. and the officers of the Grand Chapter in reference to the difficulty with the Grand Mark Lodge of England and Wales, sustains the edict of non-intercourse issued by the Grand Z. and Grand Scribe E., and approves of the proceedings and correspondence had by them in the premises, for and on behalf of this Grand Chapter, and futhermore this Grand Chapter pledges itself to support the officers of this Grand Chapter, as well for the past year as for the year to come, in their efforts to maintain the position already taken, and to defend them against all legal proceedings threatened by our English brethren, for which purpose the proper officers are authorized to employ such counsel as they may deem advisable, and make such use of the funds of the Grand Chapter as may be necessary for the foregoing purposes."

All the correspondence regarding the Grand Mark Lodge appears in an appendix. It covers over 40 pages, so it is impossible for us to give even a synopsis of it. We can only state that the difficulty has arisen from the establishment by the Grand Mark Lodge of England, of three Mark Lodges in the city of Montreal. The only excuse offered for this invasion of the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Quebec is that these Mark Lodges were necessary to accomodate Master Masons who belonged to Lodges in Quebec working under the Craft Grand Lodge of England.

The Grand Z. very properly protested against this action, and failing to receive any satisfaction, he issued an edict of non-intercourse and appealed to the other Grand Chapters for support.

The action of the Grand Mark Lodge is the more unaccountable, as they had fully recognized the Grand Chapter of Quebec and exchanged representatives, and still further to aggravate the offence, they have actually attempted to constitute a Provincial Grand Mark Lodge for the Province of Quebec.

After a careful perusal of all the correspondence, in which both sides state their respective cases at great length, we are unable to see the slightest justification for these proceedings on the part of the Grand Mark Lodge of England. They have invaded the territory of a friendly power without warning, and deliberately set up Lodges to work a degree in direct oppo-

sition to the sovereign power having the sole control of that degree in that territory. No more flagrant violation of Masonic comity has ever come under our notice, and the Grand Chapter of Quebec could not do otherwise than resent the insult or lose their self-respect.

In their endeavors to find excuses for their unlawful action, the officers of the Grand Mark Lodge sneer at us as colonists and seem to think that the Masons of this country have no rights that they are in any way bound to respect. Their ideas of Masonic equality sadly need revision.

It is our duty to uphold the Grand Chapter of Quebec at this juncture, and to assist her with all our power. Other Grand Chapters have spoken with no uncertain sound and we predict a universal expression of opinion from all the Grand Chapters on this continent in condemnation of this action of the Grand Mark Lodge of England.

Comps. A. F. Simpson, J. P. Noyes and W. H. Whyte form the Committee on Correspondence. They divided the work and present a very interesting and readable report. Canada for 1883 receives due notice.

M. E. Comp. H. L. Robinson, (Waterloo,) G. Z.

R. E. Comp. David Seath, (Montreal,) G, S. E.

RHODE ISLAND.

We have the proceedings of this Grand Chapter for the years 1882 and 1883 in one pamphlet. The 84th Convocation was held at Providence, March 14th, 1882.

The address of the Grand High Priest, Comp. John P. Sanborn, states that Capitular Masonry has kept ample pace with the symbolic degrees, and they have enjoyed great peace and prosperity. We make the following extracts :—

“ I have granted the usual dispensations, to the Chapters that have asked for the same, to omit July and August Convocations. As it is getting to be the almost universal practice to omit work during the hot months, I would suggest to the Subordinate Chapters the propriety of amending their by-laws so as to allow the omitting of these meetings without a formal dispensation.”

“ The committee to whom was assigned the duty of preparing a copy of the authorized work of the several degrees of Capitular Masonry, including also the full order of ceremonial procedure, have completed their labors, and the same having been approved by the Grand High Priest, agreeably to a vote of this Grand Chapter at its last Annual Convocation, has now become the authorized work of the several subordinate Chapters of this jurisdiction. In behalf of the Committee, R. E. Companions Rugg, Stiness and Luther, who have had this important work in charge, I would say they have performed the duty assigned them most faithfully. They have written out the entire work and lectures of the several degrees, together

with a full and complete order of ceremonial procedure, and have made the whole so plain that there need be no variations in the established work by the various Chapters hereafter. This work I have ordered to be transcribed, and when completed it will be placed in the hands of the Grand Lecturer for official promulgation to the subordinate Chapters."

The following is the report of the Committee on Reprint, which was adopted by the Grand Chapter :—

"The Committee appointed under resolutions of the Grand Chapter passed March 9, 1880, 'to cause to be printed five hundred copies of the Proceedings of this Grand Chapter from its organization to Sept. 14, 1858, inclusive,' respectfully report, that it has completed its labors at an expense of \$563.34, and deposited the Proceedings with the Grand Secretary for sale. The Committee as directed by the aforementioned resolution has fixed the price at one and fifty one hundredths dollars (\$1.50) per copy.

The Grand Secretary has under the direction of the Committee forwarded certain copies of the Proceedings as required by the above named resolutions. Your Committee recommend that the Grand Secretary be instructed to forward one copy to each of the following libraries :

The Rhode Island Historical Society; Brown University; Providence Public Library; Providence Athenæum; Boston Public Library; Peoples Library, Newport; Crompton Free Library; Rogers Free Library; Warren Library; Central Falls Library; Pawtucket Library."

A proposition to reduce the minimum fee for the degrees from \$30 to \$20 was voted down.

It was unanimously

Resolved, "That the Subordinate Chapters in this jurisdiction may by vote at any regular convocation prior thereto, omit holding the regular convocations between the 1st day of June and the 15th day of September proximo."

The 85th Convocation was held March 13, 1883.

M. E. Comp. Samuel G. Stiness, G. H. P.

In his address he says :—

"While the report of the Deputies who have visited the Chapters assigned them bring us good tidings that the utmost harmony exists within our jurisdiction, with the exception of Pawtucket and Providence Chapters but few have been able to add to their roll of membership; the reason for which demands our serious consideration for I deem it the duty of the Grand Chapter to foster and sustain those Chapters which stand most in need of our attention and assistance. And I am fully convinced that if the Chapters were permitted to confer the degrees for a less sum than now charged new life would be imparted and good material added to the fraternity.

The following dispensations have been granted during the year, and for the following reasons :

To No. 2, to hold Regular Convocation May 23d, 1882, instead of May 30th, as the latter date was 'Election Day' and Decoration Day.—To No. 8 to change Annual from September 23d to 30th, and omit Regular September 2d, 1882, as it was impossible to obtain the presence of the members at the other dates.—To No. 9 to omit Regular from April to November and hold Annual at any time when the presence of enough members could be obtained to open the Chapter.—To No. 5 to omit August Convocation.—To No. 4 to change Regular from October 25th to 27th,

1882, as the Annual of the Lodge occurred October 25th and change Regular from February 28th to 27th, 1883, as it was impossible for a *large* number of the candidates who were to be exalted to be present on the 28th, and the H. P. desired to complete the work during the Masonic year.—To No. 1 to change Regular from October 26th to November 2d, as the High Priest and most of the officers were in Philadelphia, and to change Regular from November 30th to November 28th, as the 30th was 'Thanksgiving Day,' and from February 22d to March 1st, as the 22d was a holiday and the Annual of Mount Vernon Lodge; and I am most happy to say that no other dispensations were asked for during the year."

As an example of the free use of the dispensing power to nullify the provisions of the constitution and by-laws the above paragraph is instructive. They have only ten Chapters, and we are lost in conjecture as to the result of a similar course of procedure in a jurisdiction where the Chapters number among the hundreds. It suggests a pertinent query as to what is the use of a constitution or of a code of by-laws. "No other dispensations were asked for," and the inference is that if others had been asked for, they would have been as freely granted. There is nothing like asking for what you think you want but we do not think that such asking should be encouraged. The dispensing power should be exercised only in cases of real necessity and the more sparingly it is used the better it will be appreciated. To grant these requests simply because they are asked is only to encourage further applications, which may be made upon the most frivolous pretexts, and the danger is that it tends to diminish that reverence for law and order which our fraternity so strongly inculcates.

The Committee on the address say:—

"The several dispensations granted during the year seem in no way to conflict with the spirit and intent of our standards and should be commended as embodying that equitable adjustment of legal provisions to the varying necessity which is of the essence of the highest form of law.

The suggestion that our Grand Representatives be clothed with functions which shall make them more than a name, and that commissions be limited as to time seems worthy of careful consideration. Such a plan would doubtless serve to bring the several Grand Bodies into closer and more friendly relations.

The recommendation that power be granted to confer degrees for a less sum than the present springs from the Grand High Priest's knowledge of the needs of the subordinate Chapters and should, therefore, not be suffered to pass unheeded.

In suggesting that the Grand Lodge be requested to notify this Body of expulsions and suspensions in the Lodges, the Grand High Priest touches upon a grave and patent evil. While this Committee do not now feel prepared to present a specific plan, they feel that this Grand Chapter may profitably make this important matter the subject of serious consideration.

The plan for presenting the ritual of the Mark Master's Degree by a corps of officers so ably qualified is worthy of special commendation, and your Committee feel that a part of each Annual Convocation could not be more

profitably spent than in witnessing the exemplification of one of the degrees."

A committee was appointed to prepare an amendment to the constitution, defining the status of all unaffiliated master masons.

M. E. Comp. S. G. Stiness, (Pawtucket) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Wm. R. Greene, (Providence) G. S.

TENNESSEE.

The 55th Convocation was held at Nashville, January 28th, 1884.

M. E. Comp James D. Richardson, G. H. P.

He issued a dispensation for one new Chapter.

On the subject of their Grand Lecturer, he says :—

"At the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter, one year ago, it was decided that whenever, in the opinion of the first four Grand officers, a competent Companion could be employed to instruct the Chapters, the Grand High Priest was authorized and empowered to send out a Grand Lecturer for that purpose. In obedience to this formal expression, and after a full conference with my colleagues in office, we determined to place a Grand Lecturer in the field. The position was tendered to our M. E. Companion John W. Hughes, Past Grand High Priest, and the same was by him accepted. From the well-known character of this worthy Companion there can be no doubt but that he has done efficient and valuable work, and that as a result much good will follow to Capitular Masonry in our jurisdiction. I herewith submit the report made to me officially by the Grand Lecturer, thus permitting him to tell in his own language what he has accomplished and in what condition he found the Order. If the financial condition of the Grand Chapter will at all warrant such action I recommend respectfully that provision be again made for this officer, and that a Grand Lecturer be kept in the field actively at work for at least another year."

He reports no dissensions, and that the order is in better condition than heretofore, and he thinks that this is owing more to the Grand Lecturer than any other one cause.

The report of the Grand Lecturer is as follows :—

"Sir,—I desire to submit the following as my report as Grand Lecturer : The commission you sent me bearing date, July 19, 1883, I received August 1st. I repaired at once to Nashville to consult Companion Foster and others to place myself in harmony with the work and lectures of the Grand Chapter.

On my return home, I addressed a letter to all the Subordinate Chapters throughout the State, informing them of my appointment as State Lecturer Aug. 9th, except those in Nashville, Murfreesboro, Knoxville, Chattanooga, Memphis and Jackson, for the reason that these had the work and lectures, and in a good healthy condition. I started on my work the 12th day of August ; visited Lexington and Mifflin. These two Chapters had made no report, nor paid any dues for two years. I succeeded in getting them to make a report and pay their dues to the Grand Chapter ; instructed them in the work and lectures ; they have gone to work ; have conferred some degrees, and are now in a healthy condition.

At Chester and Gravel Hill I accomplished but little, in consequence of sickness in the community. At Savannah nothing was done, because of a failure in the mail; they did not get my letter until the day I visited them. In my work I had allotted to the above named Chapters three days, but owing to their varied condition I was convinced that further information was actually necessary; hence, I sent to the H. P. of the Chapters to be visited the following circular:

September 1, 1883.

Companion High Priests:

Please answer the following questions:

Give name of your Chapter?

Does your Chapter meet regularly?

Do your members pay regular dues?

Have you the work and lectures up all right?

Do you desire instruction in the work and lectures?

Please fill out this sheet and send me by mail at your earliest convenience.

About fifteen Chapters have filled out the sheet as requested and returned to me. Eight of this number, from report, are in good working condition. Receiving reports from about one-fourth of the Chapters in the State, I was left entirely ignorant of the condition of those not reporting, and not knowing the time necessary to allot to each one, I had to lay out my work and shape my course as best I could.

I have visited all the Chapters in East Tennessee, except Rhea Springs, Dandridge and Jonesboro.

I have, and will visit, all the Chapters in West Tennessee, except at Germantown and Somerville.

I have visited all the Chapters in Middle Tennessee, except those east of the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad.

I have spent with the Chapters visited from one day and night to three.

The most difficult part of my labor has been to inspire the Companions with a zeal in the work.

I have been faithful in duty day and night during the time I have been engaged; have lost some time in consequence of the affliction and death of my only brother. I have not accomplished all I could desire, but have done what I could under the circumstances.

As to the continuance of a Grand Lecturer, I suggest, if the funds of the Grand Chapter justify, that he be continued for one year longer at least. Capitular Masonry is on the advance. Much more good can be accomplished next year than has been this. A great deal of my time has been employed in ascertaining what could be done to resuscitate semi-dormant Chapters. Nearly all promise to make report, and pay dues, and go to work, believing a brighter day is dawning upon them.

My traveling expenses have been about one hundred and twenty-five dollars. I have used my horse and buggy about sixty days, in reaching points where I could not have the advantage of public conveyance.

The Companions in most cases have freely and voluntarily paid my hotel bills. Out of the \$600 appropriated to pay the Grand Lecturer, I have received from Companion Woodward, Treasurer, \$300.

I prefer that the Grand Chapter shall say what deduction, if any, shall be made for loss of time as above specified.

I have been kindly received everywhere and not a single instance in which the work and the lectures were not heartily received by the Companions. In many places, after we would close at the hall, the Companions would return with me to my room, and we would lecture them until after

midnight; and we would have a real Masonic love-feast, at the close of which, the Companions would express their regrets that I had to leave them so soon.

While there was no action of the Grand Chapter requiring a report from the Grand Lecturer, yet, as a servant of the Grand Chapter, I feel it to be my duty to make a report to you as the presiding officer."

The sum of \$300 was voted to be expended under the direction of the Grand High Priest for lecturing in the Chapters which had not been visited by the Grand Lecturer.

The sum of \$100 was voted to the Masonic Library association of Nashville.

M. E. Comp. David J. Pierce, (Chattanooga) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. John Frizzell, (Nashville) G. S.

TEXAS.

The 34th Convocation was held at Houston, December 11th, 1883.

M. E. Comp. S. M. Williams, G. H. P.

He granted several dispensations for the installation of officers in public. He believes in this practice, and thinks that much good would result to the Chapters if it was more generally adopted. In this we disagree. Such public appearances can only be made in order to attract outsiders and invite them to become members. Such invitations are contrary to the genius and spirit of our institution. Here, we would as soon think of conferring a degree in public, as we would of installing our officers in public.

Among the decisions we notice the following:—

"A brother, having been elected to receive the Royal Arch and Appendant Degrees, before receiving them moves to another jurisdiction. His Chapter, under seal, requests the Chapter of the jurisdiction moved to confer them, which they agree to do, by a unanimous vote, provided it is lawful. Can the Degrees be conferred by a sister Chapter, and will it be necessary to spread the ballot again in the Chapter doing the work?"

Answer—A Chapter can confer the Degrees for a sister Chapter out of courtesy, first satisfying themselves that the person applying is the party named in the communication. Of course due notice of such intent must be given to all of the members, and official notice given by the Secretary of his Chapter as soon as the Degrees are conferred. The ballot in the Chapter where elected is sufficient."

"On May 29th, I received the following query from the High Priest of Lone Star Chapter, No. 6, of Austin:

Our Chapter has built and now owns in the city of Austin, a building known as the Masonic Temple. We are thinking of dedicating it. Can it be dedicated by the Grand Chapter, or by the Grand High Priest?"

Answer—In my opinion, it is in accordance with ancient usage and the custom of the Craft, that Masonic buildings should be dedicated

by the Grand Lodge, and I therefore suggest that application be made through the Lodge to the Grand Master."

He advocates prompt action in the Quebec matter, and the Grand Chapter passed the following resolution:—

Resolved,—That the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas hereby suspends all Masonic intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales until said Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons shall rescind its action by revoking the Charters granted for Lodges within the jurisdiction of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Quebec."

The reports of the Grand Visitors show that they performed their duties with great devotion, and that the Chapters are in general good condition.

There is no report on correspondence.

M. E. Comp. G. W. Foster, (Nelsonville,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Robert Brewster, (Houston,) G. S.

VIRGINIA.

The 76th Annual Meeting was held at Harrisonburg, July 31st, 1883.

The condition of the craft is thus described by Comp. Henry W. Murray, G. H. P., in his annual address:—

"Peace and harmony prevail among the Chapters and Companions throughout our borders. No note of discord have I heard, and while Capitular Masonry is not in as flourishing a condition as it ought to be—while some of the Chapters are doing nothing, or next to nothing, for the good and for the advancement of the institution, yet I think I can safely say, it is evidently improving. Many of the Chapters are doing well, and others of them are doing better now than they have heretofore; and I trust that the results of the measures which you may adopt at this Convocation will be to give an impetus to our time-honored institution for great good. Companions, be true to yourselves and to the Craft at large. Work faithfully for the upbuilding of our mystic temple, and in your daily lives act out the principles which are inculcated in your Chapters. Do this and you cannot fail."

In the report of the special committee on the Grand High Priest's address we find the following remarks:—

"Your committee were inclined to doubt the decision of the Grand High Priest in giving an affirmative answer to the question, "Has a member of a Chapter a right to stop the advancement of a Brother by objection, without stating the cause thereof," upon the ground that the General Regulation, passed in 1873, was the law of the case. It is as follows:

"That any Companion has the right to object to the advancement of a candidate at any time, but the objection shall be submitted to the Council, who shall determine as to its sufficiency." But upon an examination of the Methodical Digest, as adopted at the last Convocation of this body, and only placed in their hands to-day, they are compelled to agree with the ruling of the Grand High Priest. The later provision is as follows:

'Any Companion has the right to object to the advancement of a can-

didate at any time, and the degrees cannot be conferred so long as the objection stands.' Methodical Digest, page 35 paragraph 4. This, of course, repeals by implication, the law of 1873.

But your committee deem it their duty to report that the law of 1873 is the wiser and more just. A Brother who does not take the trouble to attend a meeting at which a candidate is to be balloted for, should not be allowed subsequently to prevent the candidate's advancement, without assigning the ground of his objection, or some reason therefor. Your committee believe that the Council are always qualified to judge wisely and well upon such a question."

We agree with the Committee.

The time and place for the next Convocation was left to the discretion of the Grand Council.

There are 33 Chapters, with a membership of 1,884, an increase during the year of 93.

M. E. Comp. W. H. H. Lynn, (Staunton,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. William B. Isaacs, (Richmond,) G. S.

WISCONSIN.

The 34th Convocation was held at Milwaukee, February 19th, 1884.

M. E. Comp. Homer S. Goss, G. H. P.

His address opens with an eloquent tribute to the memory of Charles F. G. Collins, P.G.H.P., and P.G.M., who died on the 18th December last, universally regretted. He was held in great respect and his death is spoken of as a public calamity.

The decisions reported are :—

"1st. A Companion who has remained voluntarily non-affiliated with a Lodge for more than two years, then petitioned a Lodge for membership and is rejected, is he in good standing with his chapter ?

Answer. Yes. Having complied with the requirement of the constitution by applying for membership in a Lodge, his status in the Chapter is the same as though he had been elected and not rejected in the Lodge.

Question. A candidate petitions a Chapter in this jurisdiction for the degrees and is rejected ; afterwards moving to the state of New York, petitions a Chapter there, is elected and receives the degrees without the knowledge or consent of the Chapter first petitioned. Again becoming a resident in the jurisdiction of the Chapter rejecting him, should he be permitted to visit the Chapter ?

Answer. The Companion having been exalted in a legally constituted Chapter, and in due form, is a Royal Arch Mason in good standing, and entitled to recognition as such ; but if he has been guilty of unmasonic conduct knowingly, either in obtaining the degrees or otherwise, he is subject to discipline, and should be tried for the offense.

Question. Can a Chapter transact business, such as receiving and referring petitions, in short, any business that would naturally come before it, with a less number than nine of its members present ?

Answer. For all purposes except opening and closing and the work of conferring the degrees, nine Royal Arch Masons, members of the Chapter, are necessary to constitute a quorum.

Question. A protest having been made in due form, is it necessary that charges should be preferred and a trial had in order to prevent the advancement of a candidate who has received a part of the Chapter degrees?

Answer. The right to protest against the advancement of a candidate is recognized in all departments of Masonry, nor has the High Priest or the Chapter a right to demand the reason or question the motive of the Companion objecting; consequently it is not necessary that charges should be preferred and a trial had to prevent the advancement of a candidate."

The first decision is based on a local regulation. With the last decision we do not agree. We think that the candidate who has been balloted for and accepted, and received one of the Chapter degrees has a right to be treated justly and fairly, and has a right to demand the reason or motive of any objection to his advancement.

The former Grand Secretary, John W. Woodhull, proved to be short in his cash and sent in his resignation, which the Grand High Priest accepted, and appointed Comp. John W. Laflin in his place.

One new Chapter received a dispensation.

On their finances Comp. Goss says:—

"For several years past our expenses have been in excess of our receipts. This, with the loss we have sustained through our late Grand Secretary, has left our treasury short for the last half of the year: and of the orders signed by me, those in favor of the

Grand Lecturer, for.....	\$270 00
Grand Secretary.....	400 00
Delegates to General Grand Chapter.....	300 00
Grand Secretary, postage.....	20 50
Floral emblem.	15 00
Grand High Priest, postage, express, &c.	6 00

amounting to \$1012.00, have remained unpaid until the present time, and must, therefore, be paid out of the receipts of this last year's dues. So you can readily see that it will require careful management for the coming year to enable up to pay the expenses and sustain the credit of the Grand Chapter, or our revenue must be increased.

It seems to me that we should endeavor to confine our expenses within our present receipts, for I feel that to tax our subordinate Chapters more than at present, without extraordinary reasons for doing so, would be wrong; and rather than do so even for one year, to meet the present emergency, I would prefer that the pay roll of the present session be used, provided this could be done; but this is a matter for the consideration of the finance committee, and we will leave it in their hands."

On the subject of Quebec and the Grand Mark Lodge of England, he believes it to be an excellent rule never to interfere with other people's quarrels, yet he also believes that the principle of Masonic jurisdiction is right and should be maintained.

The Trustees reported that the former Grand Secretary had

received \$2,531.50, and had paid over to the Grand Treasurer \$1,031.00, leaving still due by him \$1,500.50.

The following resolution was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence and subsequently adopted :—

“Whereas, The Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales has, in direct violation of the law of sovereignty which is recognized by every Grand Masonic body on this continent, invaded the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec, by establishing two Lodges of Mark Master Masons, and by forming a Provincial Grand Lodge within its province ; and

Whereas, The protests and remonstrances of the Grand Chapter of Quebec have been unheeded or treated with contempt ; and

Whereas, The Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter of Quebec did, on the 13th of October, 1883, by proclamation, suspend all Masonic intercourse between said Grand Chapter and its subordinates and said Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of England and Wales, and its subordinates ; therefore

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter views with surprise and condemnation this gross violation of the law of Masonic sovereignty, and unwarrantable invasion of the jurisdiction of a sister Grand Chapter, by the said Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, and hereby extends to the Grand Chapter of Quebec its hearty sympathy, co-operation and support.

The Finance Committee recommended an assessment on the Chapters to raise \$700 to meet the deficit, such assessment to be credited to the Chapters on their dues for the ensuing year. This plan was endorsed by the Grand Chapter.

The Grand Lecturer reported a marked improvement in the work and in the general condition of the Chapters, financially and otherwise.

The following resolution was rejected :—

“Resolved, That Section 13, of Article 2, of the Constitution does not prohibit any Subordinate Chapter from conferring the Chapter degrees upon a Master Mason who possesses the requisite physical qualifications to enable him to comply with all of the ceremonies of Royal Arch Masonry, with the aid of artificial appliances, in cases of misfortune occurring while a Master Mason in good standing.”

The report on correspondence is by Comp. W. C. Swain, and opens as follows :—

“Your Committee, in presenting this, his initial report to the Royal Craft, acknowledges feeling what he considers a very becoming diffidence, in consenting to step into the position so long and so well filled by Comp. Cottrill, and regards himself something like a boy in his father's boots ; but will endeavor to rattle around a little in them, and possibly make up for other short-comings by a boyish amount of sauciness.

We have not adopted Comp. Cottrill's style, because that belonged to him, and we did not consider it safe to poach upon his manor, so long as he was near, to take summary vengeance.”

He starts right off in his own style, which we consider quite

good enough for anybody. Under the head of Alabama, he says :—

“Comp. Pillans gives Wisconsin short but kindly mention. He asks Comp. Cottrill for enlightenment in regard to our Committee on Distribution of Keys. As Cottrill is no longer ‘to the fore,’ we will endeavor to give a fartning-candle ray of light. He will remember the story of Rabelais, who, in a council of the wise physicians of his day, over an unfortunate victim, listened silently for some time to their learned disquisitions upon aperients, and finally withdrew in disgust to the back yard, where he built a fire, hung over it a kettle of water, and placed therein a huge key, which he proceeded to stir around. His fellow esculapians desired enlightenment, and he gravely informed them that a key was the best aperient he knew of. And, Comp. Pillans, we consider a key the best aperient for the mysteries of the Chapter.

He is of the opinion that the attitude of the General Grand Council and of those jurisdictions which do not acquiesce in the formation of that body, threatens trouble. We do not agree with him. We are of the opinion that, like the cats in the fable, when the monkey was dividing the cheese for them, there will soon not be cheese enough left to quarrel about. We have, for some time, in regard to the Council, been asking the question, ‘Can these dry bones live?’ and the answer appears to be a negative one. We, with others, labored faithfully in this jurisdiction to build up the Cryptic rite, and have to acknowledge failure. And the reason is not far to seek. The logic of events proved too strong for us. In the ‘struggle for existence,’ and the ‘survival of the fittest,’ the Council goes to the wall. While admitting the beauty of the degrees, and their instructiveness, we must also admit, that in the multiplicity of rites, there is not sufficient room for them. In most localities, those who are active and competent workers in our Order, find an ample field for their usefulness in their Lodge, Chapter and Commandery, and have absolutely no time left to be devoted to the Council. We venture to say that Comp. Drummond does not show his face in a subordinate Council three times a year, and that in Comp. Osgoodby’s own jurisdiction, the majority of Councils are as dead as Julius Cæsar.”

He thinks that a strict construction of the powers of Grand High Priests would debar a chief officer from acting in emergencies constantly occurring and he believes that a Grand High Priest is clothed with all the powers of the Grand Chapter during its recess, except that of changing its organic law.

Canada for 1883 receives a good notice.

Under “Nebraska,” he says :—

“Comp. E. F. Warren submitted the Report on Correspondence. He opens with a discussion of the effect of suspension from membership, in which he very ably and learnedly and stongly dissents from the views of Comps. Drummond and Dadmun. We got a headache in trying to impregnate our inner consciousness with all the fine points evolved by the three learned commentators, and finally found ourselves very much in the condition of mind of King James, when he deposed his judges, and undertook the trial of a cause himself. He first listened to the arguments of counsel on one side, and was so thoroughly convinced that he was about to decide the case at once, but was finally persuaded to hear the other side,

whose arguments were equally convincing ; whereupon he called them all a pack of knaves and closed the court."

And under "Quebec," :—

"As this unfortunate difficulty is liable to lead to disturbance, we have felt justified in giving considerable space to it. The action of the Grand Mark Lodge of England is in such direct conflict with the law of sovereignty which obtains in every jurisdiction on this continent, that we feel sure that its condemnation will be emphatic ; and as the Grand Mark Lodge has derived the greater part of the consideration it has enjoyed in the Masonic world from the recognition extended to it by the General Grand Chapter of the United States, that condemnation is sure to be felt."

We are glad to notice that Comp. Swain is no friend to "cheap" Masonry. Instead of lowering the fee to \$20, he thinks it should be raised to \$50. So do we. The result would undoubtedly be better material, better Chapters, better work, more benevolence and an elevation of the standard of the Royal Craft. We do not proselytize, we do not solicit men to join our fraternity, and we want only the best men to become members and only those who do not desire to join from selfish motives. A higher fee might perhaps keep out some few good men, and wealth is not always an indication of good principles, yet, on the whole, and judging by the comparative value of money now and in former times, we think that the present fees are too low.

M. E. Comp. Edwin J. Farr, (Eau Claire,) G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. John W. Laflin, (Milwaukee,) G. S.

CONCLUSION.

The proceedings which have been received and the years of their issue are stated in the following list :

General Grand Chapter	1883	Maryland	1883
Alabama	1883	Massachusetts	1883
Arkansas	1883	Michigan	1884
California	1884	Nevada	1882-3
Colorado	1883	New Hampshire	1883
Connecticut	1884	New Jersey	1883
Delaware	1884	New York	1884
District of Columbia	1883	Ohio	1883
Georgia	1884	Oregon	1883
Illinois	1883	Pennsylvania	1883
Indiana	1883	Quebec	1884
Iowa	1883	Rhode Island	1882-3
Kansas	1884	Tennessee	1884
Kentucky	1883	Texas	1883
Louisiana	1884	Virginia	1883
Maine	1883	Wisconsin	1884

The following have not been received : Florida, 1884 ; Minnesota, 1883 ; Mississippi, 1884 ; Missouri, 1884 ; Nebraska,

1883 ; North Carolina, 1884 ; Nova Scotia, 1882 and 1883, and Vermont, 1884.

A complete list would include South Carolina and West Virginia, which publish their proceedings only every second year, and were noticed in our last report.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

HENRY ROBERTSON,
Chairman.

COLLINGWOOD, ONT., CANADA,
July 10th, 1884.

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